

Hints of martial law as protests continue unchecked

Threat to US citizens in South Korea

● Radical students in South Korea have threatened that US citizens and property may become targets of protest if martial law is declared

● President Reagan has written to President Chun urging him not to over-react to the demonstrations and to resume dialogue with the opposition

● The worried International Olympic Committee said it had "no thought" of altering its plans to stage the 1988 Summer Games in South Korea

● The South Korean middle-class and the Catholic Church, once the guarantors of stability, are now among the Government's strongest critics Page 10

From David Watts, Seoul

Amid the threat of imminent martial law in South Korea, Government opponents responsible for 10 days of violent protest have begun to put pressure on the United States to reduce its support for President Chun Doo Hwan.

Radical opposition students have warned the US that American citizens and property will become targets of protest action if martial law is declared, as implied yesterday by the Prime Minister, Mr Lee Han Key.

There is a growing anti-American feeling among young student radicals, which

has been highlighted during the latest disturbances. The young radicals believe that the unpopular regime of President Chun is held in place with US support and without it he would have been able to seize power in the first place nor retain it for seven years.

Mr Lee said in a statement to the nation on Thursday

A South Korean policeman died when anti-government demonstrators commandeered a bus in Taejeon, south of Seoul, and ploughed into ranks of riot policemen, the state radio said last night (Reuters reports). It was the first known death in 10 days of violent clashes.

night that, if law and order was not restored, "it would be inevitable for the Government to make an extraordinary decision". He gave no details.

An opposition source said the warning to the Americans was made "quietly and firmly" to the US Embassy in Seoul in the past few days. The embassy would make no comment.

A former South Korean intelligence officer described the threat as political pressure, rather than a serious terrorist threat.

So far the radical opposition to President Chun has never adopted terrorism as a means of destabilizing the Government and any such action would put heavy pressure on the President to introduce much heavier security control, with the risk that the previously relatively restrained clashes could get out of hand.

There are 40,000 US servicemen in South Korea at numerous air force and army bases across the country, as well as diplomats and sizeable business and missionary communities. Since the disturbances began, the embassy has warned Americans to stay away from dangerous areas

and to refrain from any political activities.

With protests still continuing in outlying cities but with a reduced level of conflict in the capital, the Prime Minister warned the nation that the Government's patience was wearing thin.

Mr Lee did not explain in his address what measures might be introduced, but it is known that top-level crisis discussions have considered a whole range of proposals for bringing the situation under control, including some form of martial law. Short of that, such methods as allowing the police to use batons and water cannon against the crowds of protesters have also been considered, but apparently ruled out for the moment.

"I want to emphasize once again that the current disturbances, the violent and illegal activities which are precipitating social chaos, will not help attain the goal of genuine democratic development desired by all citizens," Mr Lee said.

"I hope the public clearly realizes that, if we should fail to overcome the present difficulty in a peaceful manner, the nation would plunge into a major crisis, the consequences of which are hard to predict."

In the atmosphere of extreme violence in Seoul on Thursday night, many had thought that the Government would have no option but to bring in martial law. That, however, may be more difficult, for military as well as political reasons. The Government could, however, bring in troops to relieve over-stretched police without introducing full martial law.

According to the latest figures, almost 10,000 people have been detained, if only temporarily, since the rioting began on June 10. Some 245 have actually been charged with offences.

Reagan begs Chun to resume talks

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan has written to President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea, urging him not to over-react to the street demonstrations and calling for a resumption of dialogue with the political opposition.

In Congress, meanwhile, Senator Edward Kennedy and five other Democrats have announced they will propose economic sanctions against South Korea unless democratic elections are held to choose a successor to President Chun.

President Reagan's letter, sent within the past three days and reported by a senior official to *The New York Times* yesterday, called on President Chun to take steps towards establishing full democracy. It was said to be part of the Administration's quiet diplomacy, aimed at promoting liberalization without antagonizing the South Korean authorities and provoking a crackdown.

The Administration has also endorsed a proposed congressional resolution criticizing the Korean president

and calling for talks on constitutional reform.

Senator Kennedy, however, proposed more radical measures, and said without a transition from dictatorship to democracy South Korea faced more instability and violence, possibly leading to the loss of the Olympic Games next year.

He said the US was South Korea's largest trading partner, so sanctions would have a serious effect. He said 30,000 Americans died in the Korean War. "We do not intend their sacrifices to be in vain."

The Administration is becoming increasingly worried about the situation, though has so far taken a low-key approach. The State Department has refused to speculate publicly on the similarities with the Philippines last year, and analysts here say the Korean situation so far seems more stable. In both countries there are sizeable US forces. Some 40,000 US troops are stationed along the border with North Korea.

Dad's Army arrested after battling at Dunkirk

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

Dad's Army ended up in the arms of the law when it mounted an unofficial military exercise in the depths of East Kent.

Six members of the Home Service Force, attached to the 5th Battalion the Queen's Regiment (Territorial Army) had been indulging in what the Ministry of Defence called "activity of a pseudo military nature".

It was an unauthorized operation and Kent police were tipped off when the part-time soldiers were seen. One report suggested that 50 members of Her Majesty's constabulary spent some time hunting for the soldiers

who were exercising their skills in escape and evasion tactics.

Armed with one thunderflash, from official army stocks, two personal pistols, properly certificated, and home-made explosives, the six soldiers were arrested by the police. Three were allowed home but the other three are now subject to an investigation. Two have been reported for summons and the third was bailed to appear at a police station at a later date.

It appears that some of the part-timers thought they really were on an official exercise because when the police arrived, they acted out the part by giving only their name, rank and serial number.

The police inquiry will take into account the Unlawful Drilling Act, 1819, which is intended to prevent people from raising private armies for seditious purposes. The maximum sentence is seven years in prison.

However both military and police sources emphasized yesterday that it was not a serious case of Dad's Army preparing to take over. One source described it as a clear case of "civvies and Indians". The police said they had gone "over the top".

Army sources said that the same men from the Home Service Force had apparently engaged in extra-curricular drilling on previous occasions and the police were on the look-



Masked students hurling rocks and bottle bombs at riot police yesterday in Seoul.

Gunman kills himself at police HQ

By Craig Seton

A gunman shot himself dead in a police station yesterday after a young constable he had held hostage for eight hours escaped.

Police Constable Bill Matthews, aged 34, broke out of Gloucester central police station after being held at gunpoint by a man who has been named Paul Eyre, aged 24.

PC Matthews, a traffic policeman, was later described as a "cool, calm hero" by senior officers.

The incident started when PC Matthews, his patrol car partner, PC Pat Price, and Inspector Jerry Adams caught Eyre and another man leaving the house they had burgled in the Cotswold village of Withington, 15 miles from Gloucester.

The house was owned by Mr Michael Smith, aged 47, a former assistant train driver who won £620,000 on the pools in 1968. He and his wife, Janet, daughter, Nicola, aged 16, and son, David, aged 14, slept through the burglary.

But neighbours had heard the sound of breaking glass and alerted the police. PC Matthews, a married man with two children, chased Eyre in the darkness but the gunman turned, pulled out a

Continued on page 2 col 4

Bitter SDP attack on Steel threatens Alliance merger

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Leading Social Democrats turned bitterly on Mr David Steel last night, deepening the rift in the Alliance and further reducing the prospects of a bloodless merger.

The latest inquest on the SDP's poor election result also revealed the breach within the party's own ranks on a "shot-gun marriage" with the Liberals, and a marshalling of support for Dr David Owen.

In the new issue of the *Social Democrat*, the party's MPs and failed candidates accused their Liberal partners of trying to bounce the Alliance into a quick merger.

The strongest attack came from Mr John Cartwright, Dr David Owen's closest lieutenant, who warned that those who had devoted so much to the creation of a new political party would not find it easy to throw it all away in a few days.

Without naming Mr Steel, he said: "Those responsible for the current pro-merger blitzkrieg in the Alliance seem to have combined the sensitivity of Genghis Khan with the strategic genius of Elzhred the Unready."

He also defended the dual leadership as much less of an albatross around the necks of the Alliance than the Liberal Assembly's unilateral defence vote last autumn.

"That created both an Achilles heel in Alliance pol-

icy and a dangerous ambivalence which the Tories were swift to exploit in the early days of the campaign", he said.

"It may have been monstrously unfair to caricature the Liberal Party as a bunch of raving unilateralists, but the myth had been firmly planted in the public consciousness, especially amongst those Tory waverers we needed to win over."

"The ambivalence over key policy areas will not be removed simply by jamming Liberals and Social Democrats into one unified organization."

In the same issue, Mr John Grant, SDP candidate for Carlisle, and a former Labour MP, said: "There was an extraordinary political insensitivity about the post-election pressure by the Liberals to stampede the SDP towards instant merger."

"Such foolhardy opportunism was bound to be counterproductive. So it has proved. Much of the goodwill built up on the ground between our two parties during the election campaign has been carelessly tossed away."

However Mr William Rodgers, the former Labour minister and SDP candidate for Milton Keynes, repeated his

Continued on page 24, col 1

Lawson tries to calm City

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, attempted yesterday to provide reassurances on the economy.

He was backed up by the Governor of the Bank of England, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, who said the Government would not take risks with inflation by reducing interest rates too quickly.

City worries that the economy is growing too fast and

that inflation is heading up, emerged with the publication of a clutch of official figures on Thursday and yesterday.

The Paris-based Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development said Britain was heading for slower growth, higher inflation and a sizeable balance-of-payments deficit.

Mr Lawson said that the OECD forecasts were "some-what unreliable" and that

while there had been a slight increase in the rate of growth of earnings in Britain, productivity was also rising.

The FT 30-share index fell by 24.8 points to 1,758.3. The pound fell by more than a cent against the dollar to \$1.6160.

The City is disappointed that there was no big inflow of foreign money into London following Mrs Thatcher's election victory.

Details, page 25

14 killed in Eta bomb attack on Spanish store

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

A car bomb explosion yesterday in the underground garage of a crowded Barcelona department store, claimed by the Basque separatist group Eta, killed 14 people and injured more than 30. A dozen people were killed immediately and two of the injured died later in hospital.

The bomb attack, the biggest in Spain since 14 Civil Guards were killed and scores more wounded in Madrid last July, came as shoppers were stocking up with food for the Corpus Christi weekend holiday. The store belongs to one of Spain's biggest departmental chains, El Corte Ingles.

The explosion rocked the Hipercor store, situated in a main thoroughfare, at a peak shopping hour and police found the bodies of the victims after entering the smoke-filled garage underneath. Among the victims were two boys, six women and four men.

About five minutes before the explosion a caller, claiming to talk for Eta, had telephoned a local Catalan-language daily newspaper, warning that a bomb was going to go off.

Police were working on the theory that the explosion was another of the many car bomb attacks in the city that Eta has carried out since it launched a campaign in Barcelona last autumn, just before it was chosen to be the site of the 1992 Olympic Games. But yesterday's attack was the most serious for the number of victims involved.

Before the police found the bodies underground about a dozen people were taken to two city hospitals suffering from serious burns.

"This is a criminal attack which only merits revulsion and indignation," Señor Augustin Bassols, the Interior Councillor of the Catalan Autonomous Government, said last night.

Señor José Barrionuevo, Spain's Interior Minister,

speaking after a Cabinet meeting, admitted yesterday that an Eta group is now active in Barcelona. "Two-thirds of Eta's terrorist acts are now committed outside the Basque country," he told reporters.

But he denied that the Basque terrorists had now established a commando and accompanying infrastructure in the Barcelona area.

The attack came exactly one week after an explosion and subsequent spectacular fire which seriously damaged one of Spain's biggest petrol chemical complexes at Tarragona, down the coast from Barcelona, which was quickly claimed by Eta.

Señor Barrionuevo promised that extra precautions will be taken in future to protect Spain's industrial installations.

The attack was the seventh in the Barcelona area since last autumn, all claimed by Eta, but with possible assistance from violent segments of Terra Lliure (Free Country), the small Catalan independence movement.

After initially choosing more "habitual" terrorist targets in Barcelona, like police barracks and Civil Guard vehicles, the objective has increasingly been to disrupt key aspects of the city's life. These included the attack last March on Barcelona's port, which killed one official.

Señor Rafael Vera, Spain's Secretary of State for Security Matters, was in Barcelona earlier this week to examine with the local police the upsurge of Eta terrorism.

For pretty obvious reasons, he sought to deny that Eta had shifted to Barcelona because of its Olympic future and the consequent publicity opportunity for terrorists. He maintained it was rather because of the opportunities a big industrial and commercial centre offered terrorists as "cover" for their activities, in the light of the increasing pressure on them in the Basque country.

Captain of USS Stark may face court-martial

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Commander Glenn Brindel, the Captain of the US frigate hit by an Iraqi missile, has been recommended for court-martial and will be relieved of his command before the USS Stark leaves the Gulf, Pentagon sources have said.

An inquiry headed by Rear Admiral Grant Sharp has recommended that Commander Brindel be court-martialled, probably on grounds of negligence, for failing to defend his ship and to observe standard procedures.

Commander Brindel was

due to be relieved of command of the Stark in any case. But sources now say he will never resume command of the ship once it has been repaired.

Meanwhile, a Florida newspaper yesterday quoted an investigation at Mayport, the Stark's home port, which found that firefighters were hampered by respirators that provided oxygen for far less than the 60 minutes that they were meant to. Several of the 37 sailors who died were found wearing masks with the oxygen exhausted.

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A must for parents

What happens next? School-leavers and their parents are asking that question, and all next week *The Times* answers in a major series which will list the strengths and weaknesses of every university and polytechnic in the country, plus a guide to interview technique and how to set about getting a grant.

Portfolio Gold £28,000 to be won

● There is £28,000 to be won in today's Times Portfolio Gold competition. The weekly prize doubles to £16,000, because there was no winner last week, and the daily prize rises to £12,000, as there was no winner for the second straight day yesterday.

● Portfolio list, page 29; weekly check, page 37.

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NEWS SUMMARY

Embassy aide is accused of theft

The Foreign Office is expected to take a tough line against a junior member of the Pakistan Embassy allegedly caught trying to pick pockets in central London on election night. Mahomet Iqbal, aged 42, of the embassy's administrative and technical staff, was arrested shortly before midnight on June 11 in Piccadilly Circus in connection with an alleged theft.

After establishing his diplomatic status, Mr Iqbal was released from Vine Street police station. Last night the Foreign Office was awaiting police reports before considering what further action to take. The Pakistan Embassy refused to comment.

People who are covered by diplomatic immunity accused of minor criminal offences are normally issued with a formal warning, but after the controversy over Iranian diplomats, Foreign Office ministers are likely to ask for diplomatic immunity to be withdrawn to allow prosecution in such cases.

Meals van clamped

A van collecting meals to feed the homeless has been clamped in central London. It was the second time that Mr Don Grant's "feeding the homeless worldwide" van had been clamped while stopping to collect meals from outside Hare Krishna's Food for Life restaurant in Soho Street.

Many of those waiting for the free meals had gone home by the time the van was freed three-quarters of an hour later, he said. He had explained to police that he had to park for 10 minutes as close to the restaurant as possible "but they never showed any compassion".

Commander Neil Dickens, head of Scotland Yard's crime and traffic operations, said: "An officer made a judgement that I wouldn't necessarily have made, however we are in the process of giving our officers more training."

Red faces unveiled

When Princess Margaret arrived to unveil a plaque at a school for the deaf yesterday, embarrassed staff found someone had forgotten to cover it up before she arrived.

When the Princess walked up to the plaque at the Mary Hare school for the deaf, Snelmore, near Newbury, Berkshire, there was nothing for her to do, as it was already unveiled.

It was the only hitch to mar the visit by the Princess to the school, of which she is patron. It is the only school of its kind in the country.

London's grow-slow

Road traffic in London is growing only about one-third as fast as that for the whole of Britain, according to a report published by the Department of Transport.

It shows that in 1986 traffic in London was increasing at a rate of 1 per cent a year compared with 3 per cent nationwide. Lorry traffic in the capital is falling at the rate of about 5 per cent a year compared with 2.5 per cent in other urban areas. *London Traffic Monitoring Report* (Department of Transport Sales Unit, Building 1, Victoria Road, South Ruislip, Middlesex, E12).

Diners 'ran away'

Violence erupted in a Chinese restaurant when diners tried to run off without paying, it was claimed yesterday.

Mr Cheung Li, one of four waiters who are accused of causing an affray, told Southwark Crown Court he was thrown to the ground and punched when he tried to stop the group leaving. He said: "One of the men threw himself on me... He kept hitting me."

Minutes before Mr Cheung had told the group to "keep quiet or pay the bill and go", he said.

Earlier the court was told that a party of five diners from Essex were "clubbed like seals" by a group of 20 Chinese brandishing knives, chairs and pieces of wood.

The trial continues on Monday.

Branson soars

Richard Branson, chief of Virgin airline, left Heathrow yesterday hoping for an early start to his transatlantic hot-air balloon journey. "It looks like we are going to take off early Sunday morning."

Meanwhile, Don Cameron and Jim Howard, Branson's rivals in the attempt to become the first to cross the Atlantic by hot-air balloon, are ready to begin their epic 3,000-mile flight, but poor weather has prevented them setting off from Newfoundland, Canada.

Bus accidents rise

Accidents involving buses have increased markedly in some areas of Yorkshire since de-regulation last October. The West Yorkshire highways engineering and technical services joint committee reported that in the first three months of this year accidents involving buses had increased by about 71 per cent in Wakefield and 25 per cent in Leeds, but the average for West Yorkshire as a whole was about 10 per cent.

HEARING AID PRICES REVIEW

To help the Public achieve a better understanding of the costs involved in purchasing a hearing aid, a review of the majority of aids dispensed privately in Great Britain is now available.

This covers the categories of hearing aid by type, including the very finest in-the-ear models, and gives prices also for accessories and batteries. It is compiled by Britain's largest manufacturing and dispensing hearing aid Company.

Price lists of the major manufacturers and suppliers have all been used in compiling "Hearing Aid Price Review, 1987" which will be sent free on application to interested readers.

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TTE/SHAN

New laws will revive the private rented sector

Radical housing reforms unveiled

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

A national crusade on housing, including radical reform of rent controls to bring new life to the declining private rented sector, was promised yesterday.

Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State responsible for housing and planning, addressing the annual conference of the Institute of Housing at Brighton, said changes were essential to make renting sufficiently attractive to the independent landlord.

But he emphasized that tenants would not be left defenceless.

The statement on rent controls was part of a wide-ranging speech detailing the Government's housing programme, which he described as a national crusade.

Other proposals include continuing support for an increase in home ownership, measures to give council tenants a choice of landlords other than local authorities and the creation of housing action trusts to tackle what he said would be "nothing less than the renovation of communities in some of our worst deprived areas."

It was the first public appearance for Mr Waldegrave after the surprising announcement two days ago that he was to be the new housing minister.

The ministerial reshuffle on Monday indicated that the job had gone to Mr Michael Howard, QC. Mr Howard will now have the responsibility for piloting through Parliament the Bill to implement the community charge to replace domestic rates.

In his speech yesterday Mr Waldegrave followed the path outlined by his predecessor, Mr John Patten, who in recent months pressed for a right to rent complementing the right to buy for council tenants and for deregulation of rent controls.

Mr Waldegrave said the private rented sector had declined from 1961, when it provided one third of the housing stock, to 10 per cent now and still declining. It was vital to revive the sector to give people more choice, to allow mobility and to meet housing needs in areas where they did not match the availability of homes. He expressed the hope that the new measures would lead to an extra 250,000 lettings in the next 10 years.

The proposals will be based on the present assured tenancies, when landlord and tenant agree the rent and period of let, with the right for the tenant to a new tenancy at the end of the period. Rents would be free to find the market level.

An alternative will be short-term tenancies, with a fixed term not less than one year. In addition restrictions will be relaxed in order to encourage owners to let unused space in their homes and measures will be included to protect the tenant from harassment.

Mr Waldegrave said that while rent restrictions had helped some tenants in the short term, they had done great damage to people who wanted to rent homes in the longer term.

This was making it very difficult to move employees from the North and Midlands to the South.

The matching of accommodation to demand was a theme addressed by Sir David Nickson, president of the Confederation of British Industry, who said at a CBI luncheon at Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, that housing problems were leading to skill shortages, particularly in the South of England.

Sir David said: "One reason advanced is that there is no accommodation available for rent and insufficient public sector housing, because of the restricted nature of county structure plans and private sector housing is out of reach for many people."

Mr Ellis is now planning to persuade the Government to agree to a long-term agreement which excludes performance pay and regional pay bargaining.

Although he will be looking for a significant improvement on the original pay offer, he will no longer insist on the new offer being backdated.

"After the Government just got re-elected with a massive majority, Sir Nigel Lawson made it clear there would be no improvement on the 4.25 per cent pay offer from April 1," said Mr Ellis.

"These are the facts and we are now going to have to inject a little realism into this dispute," he added.

The Society of Civil and Public Servants, who are also on strike, have already been offered a 2 per cent increase from next September to deal with differentials.

Mr Ellis launched his new initiative to lift his members' spirits which, according to the Government, have started to flag noticeably.

The Department of Employment said 55 per cent of the workforce in Scotland were on strike yesterday and 95 of their 106 offices closed.

The Department of Health and Social Security said 63 of its 65 Scottish offices were closed and 69 per cent of its staff on strike. In the North-East all 29 offices targeted for strike action closed and 61 per cent of the staff walked out.

Although the CPSA said 90 per cent of its members had obeyed the two-day strike call, Mr Ellis remains anxious to rally members in case the strike begins to collapse.

"If this strike is not to become dead and buried we can no longer afford to go for the impossible," he said. "My members need to know that a reasonable increase is still possible, although not from 1 April."

Mr Hubert Reynolds, assistant Chief Constable of Gloucestershire, said: "PC Matthews was very cool, calm and collected throughout. I was very impressed. It was a brilliant piece of police work."

Afterwards PC Matthews was seen by a psychiatrist to make sure that he had not suffered any mental reaction.

Later he was reunited with his wife, Jane, and his three children, aged five, seven and 10.

PC Matthews has been in the Gloucestershire force for 11 years. He was based at Bamfurlong, the Gloucestershire police traffic headquarters.

Strikers' leader ready to give way

By Ruland Radd

The leader of one of the striking civil service unions is set to change his union's strategy in a dramatic move to end the 10-week-old dispute with the Government.

Mr John Ellis, the general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association, yesterday accepted for the first time during the dispute that the Treasury would not increase its original pay offer of 4.25 per cent from April 1.

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Sunday Times

It is estimated that more than 100,000 people in Britain have been identified as victims of the Aids virus. The rest us, meanwhile, are victims of ignorance.

In an attempt to confront this problem, *The Sunday Times* tomorrow devotes a whole issue of the magazine to a detailed study of this deadly disease and asks a series of challenging questions:

Are scientists on the threshold of discovering a cure? How has the epidemic changed our views of morality? What real hope, and help, can we provide for sufferers?

The Sunday Times also publishes the full, exclusive story of a remarkable counter-espionage coup by MI6, telling how Britain's secret service exposed spies in the Russian Trade Delegation in Highgate.

The man who infiltrated the Soviet headquarters - a double-glazing expert - reveals how he identified KGB men who were later expelled.

There is also a new look to the Review section, with new screen and print pages, new food and drink columns and an expanded listings page.



Police Constable Ron Dean, left, a firearms officer, leads PC Bill Matthews to safety after his escape

Traffic PC's escape defies gunman

Continued from page 1

pistol and fired a warning shot.

Eyre, who was dressed in a boilersuit and balaclava helmet, was also carrying a shotgun and ordered the police officer into his Granada patrol car.

The gunman is said to have come from Gloucester and to have been released from prison only recently.

He demanded to be driven to Gloucester to see his former girlfriend and, on the journey, used the patrol car's telephone to warn senior officers at the city's police station to stay clear or he would shoot PC Matthews.

Police marksmen were called in and Eyre's former girlfriend, his parents and other acquaintances in Gloucester were taken for their own safety from their homes to the police station.



Paul Eyre: Died in police station

For an hour, PC Matthews drove Eyre from one address to another until at 5am the gunman demanded to be taken to the police station where he forced the officer past colleagues and into a small office.

The station was immediately surrounded by armed officers and the centre of Gloucester was sealed off as Supt David Price, of Gloucester police, negotiated with Eyre over the telephone.

During the siege Eyre fired a shot into a notice board as a warning to armed officers outside to stay clear but, at 10.25, PC Matthews seized his chance while Eyre was talking on the telephone. He threw open a door and ran down a corridor to safety.

Eyre later pushed his shotgun out of the locked office towards waiting policemen but at 12.30 three more shots

were heard and, when police rushed in, Eyre was dead on the floor.

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New Director of Public Prosecutions

Neilson case QC takes over

By Peter Mulligan

Mr Allan David Green, QC, is to be the new Director of Public Prosecutions, replacing Sir Thomas Hetherington, QC, who retires at the end of September after 10 years.

Mr Green, a well-known figure at the Central Criminal Court, prosecuted at several highly publicized trials, including that of Dennis Neilson, the multiple murderer, and the Schulzes, who were convicted of spying for East Germany.

The appointment, to the head of the Crown Prosecution Service, which decides whether to prosecute in criminal cases in England and Wales, was made together with a number of management changes designed to improve efficiency.

These include the appointment of four new directors which it is hoped will allow the service to maintain closer contact at regional level.

Mr Green, aged 52, said in a statement yesterday: "This is a very challenging and stimulating appointment which I look forward to very much. In many ways, it is different from what I have been doing."

Mr Green, a highly regarded prosecutor in sensational cases, is being called to the Bar in 1989.

He is also a Crown Court Recorder and a member of the newly-constituted Bar Council, serving on its Professional Standards Committee and Professional Conduct Committee since January 1.

Mr Green, who has two children and spent his national service in the Royal Navy, will be the tenth occupant of the DPP's chair. He takes over from Sir Thomas, who deferred his retirement in order to steer in the independent Crown Prosecution Service, which took prosecutions out of the hands of the police.

With the framework of the service now established, the new DPP will have direct involvement in cases "of major significance", a spokesman said yesterday.

It was also announced that Mr David Gandy has been promoted to the new post of deputy director and chief executive. His main task will be to handle day-to-day administration.

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Thatcher's search for a new PPS

The Prime Minister will this weekend choose a new Parliamentary Private Secretary, her link with backbench Conservative MPs, after the announcement yesterday that Mr Michael Alison is to resign to become the Second Church Estates Commissioner (Our Political Editor writes). Mr Alison has been the Prime Minister's PPS since 1983.

There was talk during the last parliament that Mr Michael Portillo, winner of the Enfield Southgate by-election, was to join Mr Alison as a second PPS to the Prime Minister. But the news was leaked too soon and Mr Portillo instead joined the Conservative Whips office.

It is understood that the Prime Minister is now unlikely to appoint two Parliamentary Secretaries.

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Flamin...

World 'cannot cope with the ascent of women in business'

By John Spicer

The speed at which women are conquering the rapidly changing world of business is greater than the world can, or is willing to absorb, according to an expert on commercial organization and management.

Despite this, there is every likelihood that women will step up the pressure to enter commerce — adding to the universal problem of unemployment.

Dr Ernesto Longo, an expert on business organization, speaking to a conference of European Personnel Management in London yesterday, was highlighting current trends in employment, technology and worker-involvement.

When it came to the most important things in life, both high-flying women and men still chose "love" — at least, in Italy, said Dr Longo.

Dr Longo said that for centuries the world of work had been a man's world with a minority of women employed almost entirely in auxiliary and subordinate positions.

"Today, and quite likely in the future too," he said, "this man's world is more and more conquered by women."

Dr Longo said that in the 10 years up to 1985 the female workforce rose in the United States and all European countries. In France and West Germany from 37 per cent to 39 per cent; in the UK, from 37 per cent to 40 per cent; in Sweden from 43 per cent to 47 per cent; in Italy from 30 per cent to 35 per cent; and in the USA from 39 per cent to 43 per cent. The number of women

actually being employed in the same period rose equally dramatically.

The level of education among working women rose everywhere, too, he said. In Italy, for example, between 1980 and 1985, the percentage of university graduates among working women rose from 5 per cent to 7 per cent and diploma-holders from 19 per cent to 24 per cent.

Dr Longo said females entering the world of work were both a manifestation of a society that was evolving and changing, and a reservoir of creative resources that could not be ignored.

Turning to values in the workplace, Dr Longo said a survey carried out by his colleagues among 400 young people who were either newly-qualified graduates or had been working for a few years, showed little ever changed.

In answer to the question: what in your view is the most important thing in a person's life? 57.4 per cent chose "love", followed closely by "family", "friendship" or "an ideal", 35.2 per cent chose "work", "success", "money" and "power".

He said considering the Italian reputation for love and its role in history, the answers may not be surprising, but was this just an Italian perspective? Dr Longo doubted it.

Dr Longo's views were upheld last night by Mrs Jean Parker, chairwoman of the CBI's Small Firms Council, and chairwoman of her own

company. She said: "It's certainly true that the whole industrial scene has changed and the call is now for more brain than brawn. Women want to go out to fulfil themselves and the changes in social attitudes have also enabled them to do this. Women are particularly more involved in setting up their own businesses. An earlier lack of confidence has now gone and running a business can be dovetailed with domestic duties."

Mrs Jennifer Rosenberg, 1986 Businesswoman of the Year, who runs her own fashion company, said that in the past five years women had really made their presence felt at all levels and in all sorts of business. She said her own case was typical of someone in a big corporation who realized that she was not going to get on. "I simply left and started my own company, which has been very successful", she said.

Miss Elizabeth Gluck, current holder of the Women Mean Business Award, who started her own direct marketing company in 1981 and now has offices in London, Paris and Barcelona, said that half of the 400 employees in her London office are women. She said: "I do not employ women just because they are women. I find that women have an intuitive sense in business that men lack. The total cultural and social change of the last few years has opened doors for women and they will make more and more impact."

BR puts more into Channel Tunnel

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

British Rail is to increase its planned investment in facilities associated with the Channel Tunnel. It was revealed yesterday.

At a conference held in London, organized by the pressure group Transport 2000, Mr David Kirby, British Rail's joint managing director, said that traffic estimates had been revised upwards. This would mean that BR would have to invest more than the £400 million which had been planned up to now.

It is believed that BR is now actively reviewing its plans, and that decisions may be reached within the next few months. On current planning the bulk of the money would be spent on new international terminals at Waterloo station in London and at Ashford in Kent, and on rolling stock.

High speed trains, which are to be built to operate through the tunnel, will be capable of speeds of 175mph on continental railway lines, but will be limited to about 100mph on British tracks. Mr Kirby made it clear that because of cost there was no question at present of a new high speed line being built through Kent.

He forecast the tunnel would produce very large increases in the amount of freight and number of passengers which British Rail carried to the continent.

Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State for the Department of Transport, said that by stimulating a transfer of freight from road to rail, the tunnel would produce a very considerable environmental benefit because it would reduce the number of heavy lorries on the roads by about 1,500 a day.

Mr Alastair Morton, British co-chairman of Eurotunnel, the Anglo-French company which is promoting the tunnel project, forecast that the tunnel would be working to full capacity by the early years of the next century.

The terms of Eurotunnel's concessions requires it to put forward proposals for a drive-through link by the year 2000. However, Mr Morton indicated that in his opinion the nature of a further link across the Channel should be determined by whether road or rail traffic gained the stronger position when the Channel Tunnel is opened in 1993.

He said the company's aim to raise £750 million of equity in the autumn should not strain the financial markets. Only about £250 million to £350 million of this would be raised in Britain and this was only a fraction of the size of recent successful privatization projects.

PC Luxford, who came forward in February last year and is a prosecution witness, has been given immunity from prosecution.

The other two constables accused are PC Michael Gavin and PC Michael Parr, both aged 28. All four deny assaulting five youths. With Police Sergeant Colin Edwards, aged 34, they deny conspiring to pervert the course of justice.

Sergeant Edwards denies failing to protect the boys.

The trial was adjourned.

Mr Lett accused him of being intent on telling lies to

wrongly fallen on another van, November 30.

Mr Hugh Lett, for the defence, asked the constable yesterday: "You didn't mind if they went to the wall so long as you survived — correct?" PC Luxford replied: "Yes".

He also said PC Luxford was continuing to lie, this time at the expense of two of those on trial, PC Edward Mian and PC Nicholas Wise, both aged 27. But PC Luxford refused the suggestion that the two officers had not joined his vehicle until after the alleged attack.

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the count is made in London was flooded by rain, the Asthma Research Council reported.

Despite the wettest start to a British summer in 25 years, in which London has already had two and a half inches of rain this month, 50 per cent more than normal, meteorologists say there is no evidence the weather of yesterday was better than today.

The Climatic Research Unit at East Anglia University says the only significant change in rainfall between the past decade and the preceding 45 years has been in a larger number of extremely dry summers.

However, experts recognize that the figures they use to

EEC show of unity on air safety

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Europe took the first moves yesterday towards establishing a single organization for dealing with air safety with the signing of an agreement in Paris.

It will enable a single multinational team to provide technical information for airworthiness certificates acceptable throughout the community.

Each country, anxious to retain its own rights in laying down safety standards, has previously insisted on providing its own technical experts.

But the 11 EEC countries have now agreed to accept the word of any expert from within the community to enable them then to issue a safety certificate.

Christopher Tugendhat, chairman of Britain's Civil Aviation Authority, said that the agreement would lead to increased efficiency and a reduction in both the time and money needed for certifying an aircraft.

"While we have not yet reached the stage where a joint European airworthiness authority could be established because of difficult questions of legal sovereignty, I have no doubt that this agreement lays the foundation for such a development in the future", he said.

Tugendhat, page 10

Police assault trial

PC let others take blame

A police van driver was prepared to let colleagues in another vehicle take the blame for a street attack on a group of schoolboys, a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Police Constable Kevin Luxford, aged 27, has admitted lying about the incident on August 6, 1983, when four constables in his carrier, codenamed November 33, are alleged to have set upon the innocent youths in George's Road, Holloway, north London.

PC Luxford says he failed to own up about the attack for two-and-a-half-years, even though he knew suspicion had

wrongly fallen on another van, November 30.

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However, experts recognize that the figures they use to

uncover long-term trends do not give the whole picture.

According to Dr Graham Farmer, senior research associate at the unit, monthly averages can be particularly misleading. The weather can be dreary for most of a month, yet come out above average after a few days of blistering heat.

The temperature figures are taken from thermometers kept inside special "Stevenson screens", slatted boxes that protect the instruments from the chilling effect of wind. As a result, the Meteorological Office can record temperatures that seem much higher than those felt in the street.

The Meteorological Office kept records of a far greater

number of variables which, used together, might be turned into an indicator of "weather quality". "But there's a limit on the amount of data we can put out without seeming overwhelming".

Despite the lack of evidence for a long-term change in Britain's weather, meteorologists believe that the country will eventually feel the "greenhouse effect", caused by the increased level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from industrial pollution. Rainfall and temperature are predicted to rise significantly.

Dr Farmer said that the changes should start to be felt early in the next century.

Forecast, page 24



The Duchess of York at Ascot yesterday wearing a navy blue fifties-style couture hat in rough straw, trimmed with white carnations, by Graham Smith, of Kangol. Her navy and white silk dress, with off-the-shoulder collar, is by Catherine Walker, of Chelsea Designs.

Motorcycle warfare

By Craig Seton

Police action prevented a bloodbath

Eight members of a motorcycle gang were found guilty at Leicester Crown Court yesterday of conspiracy to cause grievous bodily harm.

Seven of them were also found guilty of carrying offensive weapons, including knives and a machete, in the last in a series of six trials in which about 50 men have appeared in courts across the country.

Almost 150 officers from three Midlands police forces combined in Operation Biker to end six days of bloody warfare between the rival Pagans and Ratacs gangs.

Police from Warwickshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire joined forces after gang fights and reprisal raids over "territorial rights".

left one man shot dead, another scalped with a sword and more stabbed or beaten.

Police believe their operation to round up the gangs prevented a bloodbath.

The men found guilty yesterday will be sentenced next Friday by Judge Francis Allen, along with eight men who pleaded guilty to conspiracy. Another 12 men convicted at Northampton will be taken to Leicester for sentence.

During the week-long Leicester trial the jury was told that members of motorcycle gangs from East Anglia and Humberside were invited by a Leicester-based group to help carry out a petrol bomb attack on the headquarters of a rival gang in Leighton Spa.

But the Leicester-accused did not take part because they lost their way. Their vehicles were stopped and weapons were discovered. One man from London was acquitted of the conspiracy charge.

During the operation, police seized an armoury of weapons, including shotguns, crossbows, meat cleavers, knives, chains and iron bars.

They also discovered that most of the members had decent jobs. Some were married with children.

The bloodshed began on May 13 last year with three separate attacks by gang members who found rivals living in their territory, two in North Warwickshire and one in Leicestershire.

Rise in car insurance will hit the young

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

Young drivers of fast cars in Britain's major cities will bear the brunt of another steep rise in car insurance this year, according to the Automobile Association.

Owners of powerful cars, young drivers and motorists living in cities could see their insurance premiums rise by up to 40 per cent although the average increase for millions of motorists could be half that.

The AA, Britain's largest motor insurance broker, said yesterday there had been a dramatic increase in car theft in provincial cities.

National figures show that last year car thefts increased from 367,426 in 1985 to 411,060, though the biggest increase in auto crime was for theft from cars which jumped from 478,968 in 1985 to 577,414 last year. More insurance companies are expected to charge higher premiums for city drivers who cannot park their cars in a garage overnight.

The biggest concern for insurance companies is the sharp increase in the number of motorists' claims. General Accident has seen the frequency of claims increase from one in six motorists claiming each year to one in four.

Private screenings 'miss signs of cancers'

By Robert Matthews

Poorly qualified and over-worked staff at private health clinics are putting women's lives at risk by failing to detect cervical and breast cancers in routine tests, according to London Weekend Television's *The London Programme*.

Researchers for the programme, which was broadcast last night, arranged for 800 smears to be sent to a leading private laboratory, used by many National Health Service laboratories to help clear backlogs.

Twenty-two of the smears had obvious signs of cancer which had been detected by routine screening within the NHS. However, the private laboratory gave the wrong diagnosis in nearly half the cases, the programme said.

It said that five were missed altogether by the private laboratory, three of which could have been fatal. A further five cases of serious cancers were passed off as mild abnormalities.

Dr Peter Trott, of the Royal College of Pathologists, said yesterday: "The *London Programme*'s evidence is extremely worrying. For women to be falsely reassured that they are quite well when in fact the test has been done incorrectly and is in fact positive can lead to delays in diagnosis so that the cancer may develop and will perhaps recur when it is at an incurable stage."

In a separate investigation, patients tested for breast cancer and given the all-clear by a London private health clinic later had to have operations to remove tumours.

According to the programme, a senior technician at one of the biggest private laboratories said that senior staff were often not properly qualified.

Undermining of cancer screening laboratories is leading to "unacceptable delays in notification", Dr Elizabeth Hudson, chairwoman of the BSCC, said yesterday.

"Women in some parts of the country are already having to wait up to 22 weeks for the result of smears", she said.

A recent BSCC report found that staffing levels in screening laboratories were generally far lower than recommended. The society is concerned that there is as yet no mandatory test of proficiency for cervical screening.

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Rape of girl aged 5 'probably planned weeks in advance'

By Michael Horsnell

The man who raped a girl aged five abducted from a playgroup in Portsmouth had probably stalked and picked out his victim weeks ago, a child abuse campaigner said yesterday.

Mrs Dianne Core, of the organization ChildWatch, said sexual perverts were taking advantage of the drop in supervision by teachers at school break times.

ChildWatch is now urging parents to form volunteer groups at infant and junior schools.

Mrs Core said: "Teachers no longer do schoolyard duty during break time. This has meant very young children going unsupervised, especially when local authorities cannot afford to pay for supervisors."

"Perverts are cashing in on this lack of supervision. These playground panthers purposely plan their attack like a military operation, sometimes even taking Polaroid photographs of their intended victims."

"Parents ought to know it is not a spur of the moment situation. The little girl in Portsmouth was most probably picked out weeks before her attacker struck."

ChildWatch is bringing out a pop record called "Shout it Out" which will be launched by Rolf Harris, the entertainer, in London on Monday.

The song on the A side is sung by Jim Diamond. On the B side, Janice Long, a Radio 1 disc jockey, reads statistics and Nanette Newman, the

Police hunting the rapist of the girl aged five in Portsmouth yesterday criticized the public's "very poor" response to their appeal for help in tracking the attacker.

There was nationwide publicity of the two-hour ordeal endured by the girl after she was enticed away from the playground of the Charles Dickens First School on the Blackland estate during Tuesday's lunch break.

But Hampshire police said that only a few calls had been received at the special incident room. They were hoping for more clues from parents waiting outside the school.

The victim of the "horrendous sexual attack", which was believed to have taken place at a house or flat near the school, was again being interviewed by a policewoman in the hope of getting a more accurate description of her attacker.

Sixty officers were involved in house-to-house inquiries on the estate yesterday.

actress, reads poems written by abused children.

A call for a national register of child abuse cases, including those known to local authority

social service departments, was made yesterday by Dr Alan Gilmore, director of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Dr Gilmore, speaking at an NSPCC conference in London, attacked the lack of national co-ordination and called for more government resources to deal with the problem. Reported cases of child abuse are more than doubling each year.

At present, although the NSPCC has a centralized register, the other main agencies combating child abuse, the local authority social services departments, do not.

The Department of Health and Social Services indicated yesterday that Dr Gilmore's suggestion might receive a sympathetic response.

At the end of last year the NSPCC estimated that nearly 10,000 children under the age of 15 were physically abused, 3,000 sexually abused and more than 1,000 emotionally abused every year.

Numbers of children on the NSPCC child abuse register in England and Wales rose 42 per cent in 1985.

One fifth of children sexually abused in their homes are under five, including a small number of babies under 12 months. Boys are increasingly the victims.

Hounds trail free-wheeling master



Captain Brian Fauschaw, joint master and huntsman, and Mr Neil Colman, kennel huntsman, take to their bicycles to lead the Cottesmore Hunt pack on its 12-mile daily walk around Leicestershire yesterday.

CND ends appeal on phone tap by MI5

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) yesterday withdrew an appeal against a ruling in the High Court over the use of a telephone tap by MI5 in keeping surveillance on Dr John Cox, the campaign's vice president.

But Mr Paul Johns, the CND chairman, insisted that two important points of law had already been established. "First, that citizens have the right to seek redress against improper surveillance and, second, that the Government cannot simply invoke interests of national security to prevent the courts reviewing alleged abuses of the security service."

CND withdrew the appeal after a preliminary hearing with Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, during which it was decided that it had little chance of succeeding.

Three charged over paintings

Three men accused of trying to blackmail an insurance company for the return of four stolen nineteenth century oil paintings valued at £1 million were remanded in custody for a week yesterday at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court.

Reginald Pullen, aged 34, a building surveyor, of Headley Close, Bird Hill, Crawley, Sussex, William Hogan and his brother Thomas Hogan, who refused their particulars, are charged with dishonestly handling three paintings and making an unwarranted demand for £150,000.

Plea for killer

A petition containing the names of more than 5,000 people calling for the reduction of a life sentence imposed in February on Anne Reynolds, aged 18, who battered her mother to death, was handed in to the criminal appeals office in London yesterday. Reynolds claimed she was suffering post-natal depression.

Prison case

Margaret Brookes, chief officer at Cookham Wood prison in Rochester, Kent, had her case adjourned yesterday until July 17 when she appeared before Medway magistrates accused of falsely claiming an overtime payment. She was suspended from her duties and is on bail.

Bingo charge

Arthur John Sagar, aged 44, a third member of a trio alleged to be involved in a £1-million bingo fraud appeared in court at Burnley, Lancashire, yesterday. Mr Sagar of St Matthew Street, Burnley, was remanded on bail and ordered to surrender his passport.

Heir's divorce

Dai Llewellyn, aged 40, the Baronet's heir, and his wife, Vanessa, aged 29, a niece of the Duke of Norfolk, were divorced after seven years of marriage yesterday when they were granted a decree nisi in the London Divorce Court.

Rapist jailed

David Reynolds, aged 22, unemployed, of Springbank Crescent, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, was sentenced to 13 years' jail at Leeds Crown Court yesterday after admitting the rape of an 80-year-old widow.

Mother loses

Mrs Kathleen Worster, of Gilda Terrace, Braintree, Essex, who gave birth to a boy after being sterilized, lost her High Court claim for damages yesterday.

Efficiency drive for the Post

By Roland Rudd

The Post Office is mounting the biggest efficiency drive in its history in order to improve the letter service. There are plans to employ more postmen and to increase the number of deliveries.

A management team has also been appointed to improve reliability and customer care.

Mr Bill Cockburn, managing director of Royal Mail Letters, said that the new management structure would provide stronger support for delivery services.

Its plans were welcomed by the Post Office Users' National Council, which has criticized the "inadequate performance and poor quality of service".

A spokesman said that, despite record growth, the Post Office had not reached its target of delivering 90 per cent of first-class mail on time. It is estimated that 46 million letters are posted every day.

But the Post Office is confident that the new management team will ensure that the target is reached next year with an extra £18 million being spent on three initiatives.

It will be taking on more staff to ensure that first delivery in towns are completed by 9.30am, and to provide second deliveries to about 400,000 extra addresses.

Measures such as sample tests will be used to ensure that collections are made on time, that mail is accurately segregated and efficiently delivered.

Thirdly, a computer network codenamed DARRT will be developed to find the most efficient ways of delivering record numbers of letters.

The initiatives have been launched in the wake of its internal reorganization, the biggest change this century in the way the Post Office was run, last year.

Cabbies' hot-line will help to track suspects

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A hot-line from Scotland Yard linking 1,300 radio taxis in London will put cab drivers on the alert from next Monday whenever a serious crime is committed and a suspect gets away.

A similar operation used since March by police in Cardiff has already led to arrests. Nine of the main Cardiff taxi companies, with about 450 vehicles, have combined to cooperate on a formal basis.

Drivers tell police of suspicious incidents, and if, for instance, a child were abducted they would be told what to look out for via their control rooms.

The new "cab watch" in London is part of a continuing drive by the Metropolitan Police to involve the public in preventing and fighting crime.

Already neighbourhood watch has been followed by other schemes using the same principles: business watch, pub watch and even poacher watch in the north of the metropolitan area.

Commander Wally Boreham, head of Scotland Yard's Community Relations Branch, said: "Taxi drivers are street-wise. We don't anticipate too many wild goose chases."

The "cab watch" scheme will be used only for serious crimes, covering murders, armed robberies, rape, sexual assaults, abduction, and the theft of valuable goods.

The results of the pilot scheme will be reviewed after 12 months. If successful, Scotland Yard will seek to extend it to all the 5,000 licensed radio cabs in London.

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As *Investors Chronicle* puts it: "Measured over decades the stock market's smaller companies have consistently outperformed the larger."

Small, yes. Simple, no.

All very logical and satisfying - but like most things, not as easy as it looks. The problem being that whilst some small companies 'take off' and perform extraordinarily well, others fail.

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ence in knowing what to look for. At Barclays Unicorn we have it all.

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agement Limited are highly knowledgeable people who not only utilize sophisticated investment techniques, but who also get out and about regularly calling on companies, meeting managers and investigating things for themselves.

Your new opportunity.

We are pleased to offer you the chance to get in on the launch of our new Smaller Companies Trust.

The aim of which is to obtain capital growth for unitholders from investments in smaller companies. A proportion of the fund may be invested in the Unlisted Securities Market and in unquoted securities. (The company examples quoted earlier are of course now too high and established for this particular Trust.)

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However, with the economy on the upturn, many interesting new companies are being set up by highly committed managements in every-thing from high technology to retailing.

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During the initial offer period, from June 15th to July 3rd, 1987 the price of units will be fixed at 50p. Thereafter prices and yields will appear daily in the Financial Times.

The estimated gross starting yield is 1.5%. This yield reflects only the income of the Trust and not the prospect of capital growth.

There are two types of unit: Income Units where distributions are paid, after basic rate tax, annually on September 22nd. And Accumulation Units which have after-tax income automatically retained within the Trust to increase their value.

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CND ends appeal on phone tap by MIs

Minister rules out open cheque to fund health pay awards

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The Government yesterday refused to give any commitment fully to fund any future pay awards for National Health Service staff covered by review bodies.

To cries of "shame" Mr Tony Newton, Minister for Health, told health authority members that the Government was neither bound by the recommendations of the review bodies covering doctors, dentists and nurses nor bound fully to fund their awards.

In his first ministerial speech since the general election, Mr Newton also indicated that government money spent on Aids was noticeably generous on the month preceding the election but would be less forthcoming in the future.

Speaking at the annual general meeting of the National Association of Health Authorities in Bournemouth, Mr Newton said he could give no undertaking to fund pay awards as that amounted to signing a blank cheque.

"I do not see that any government setting up an independent review body is going to undertake to implement those recommendations and to meet the bill — that would mean handing over a completely open cheque."

Mr Newton's remarks came after a unanimous call by the conference for full govern-

ment funding of NHS pay awards.

Speaker after speaker complained that patient services were being affected by a funding policy totally outside the control of health authorities.

Services were being invisibly cut and developments delayed as money was diverted to meeting pay awards, health authority members said.

Proposing the motion, Mr David Hill, a member of Worcester Health Authority, said that his own authority had had to find £1.5 million in five consecutive years just to meet this under-funding.

In response the authority had worked hard for value for money initiatives, practise good housekeeping and extended competitive tendering outside ancillary services to achieve savings of more than £2.5 million.

However this year it had to find another £2 million out of a district budget of £40 million.

"We have already had to declare 86 posts redundant. Services are being invisibly harmed due to delays in shortening waiting lists and the administrative support is beginning to crack."

Mr Hill said the authority had now reached a point where no further savings had

been found. "A sad reality is that we are discussing savings for next year which are likely to affect patient services."

Pressed on the Government's plans for future funding on Aids, Mr Newton said that the education programme would now concentrate on specific target groups such as drug addicts and would be expanded at local level.

However he indicated that there would be no commensurate expansion in central funding.

Mr Steven Bubb, a member of West Lambeth Health Authority, south-east London, called on Mr Newton to extend government funding for the treatment of Aids patients beyond the present allocation to only three London regions.

However Mr Newton said that although he was aware of the pressures of Aids that would have to be considered against other bids at the next public expenditure round.

Earlier, Mrs Julia Cumberlege, Naha's vice-chairman, condemned the "shameful health record" in Britain, which she described as a catalogue of pain, misery and failure.

She said there was an urgent need for closer partnerships with local authorities, voluntary organizations and the private sector.



Mr Mel Oxland, of Birmingham silversmiths Barker Ellis, pours a cup of tea to celebrate an order from Japan worth £50,000 for the firm's silver teapots (Photograph: Philip Dunn).

Drugs raid nets 120 hippies at festival

By Howard Foster

More than one hundred people were arrested at the Glastonbury pop festival for alleged drug offences and 250 travellers were evicted from a wood near Stonehenge yesterday as police moved to contain hippie behaviour.

Avon and Somerset police, who made 120 arrests, said that cannabis, cocaine and amphetamines were found on people arriving at Pilton, near Glastonbury, for this weekend's CND festival.

Meanwhile, the hippies moved on from their woodland site near Stonehenge and last night congregated at the Devils Ditch on the border of Wiltshire and Hampshire.

Police continued to monitor their progress and were expecting numbers to swell once those on foot had reached the site, which is only a quarter of a mile from the field where more than 300 hippies were arrested amid violent scenes before the summer solstice festival in 1985.

A Wiltshire police spokesman said that efforts were being made to establish the ownership of the land.

The hippies hope to be allowed to walk to the Stones to celebrate the summer solstice at dawn tomorrow. Most of the land around Stonehenge still has injunctions upon it preventing trespass after previous hippie pilgrimages. Although police say that they have yet to finalize their plans, it is understood that roads around the monument will be blocked.

Union's order to strike 'was illegal'

By Ronald Faux, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Journalists on *The Times* would have broken the law and put their jobs in jeopardy if they had obeyed an order by the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) executive to strike during the dispute at Wapping, east London.

That was claimed yesterday by Mr Clifford Longley, father of *The Times* NUJ chapel (office branch), at the second day of an appeal by 42 *Times* journalists fined £1,000 each for disobeying a union instruction not to cross picket lines.

Mr Longley said after the hearing, before an NUJ appeals tribunal, that the union's national executive had ignored the wishes of its members to ballot and ignored the majority decision of the chapel to work at Wapping.

The NUJ chapel, he said, was the recognized bargaining unit for *Times* journalists. It was against all the principles of trade unionism, and the long established practice in the NUJ, to dismiss the chapel's considered views.

"Any management treating a chapel in such an insulting and dismissive way would rightly be condemned," Mr Longley said.

The appeal hearing was adjourned until Tuesday. Nearly a hundred journalists employed by News International and working at Wapping for *The Times*, *Sunday Times*, *The Sun* and *News of the World*, have appealed.

Sentence cut for wronged husband

A husband went on a rampage with a shotgun and fired at his wife's lover through an upstairs window, Exeter Crown Court was told yesterday.

But Mr Justice Jupp told Arthur Mears, who feared his wife's love was being snatched, that he was expecting "You were a wronged husband and I am sure everyone will have sympathy with you for that. But for what hap-

pened between your wife and another man you would never be in the dock."

Mears, aged 23, a builder's labourer, of Coplestone, near Crediton, was jailed for 21 months. The judge suspended all but a quarter of the term, which means he will serve five months and a week.

Mears admitted causing grievous bodily harm to Mr

Barry Browning, aged 41.

The court was told that Mears took a loaded shotgun and a beltful of cartridges and went in search of the lover of his wife, Stella, aged 21.

He blasted his own car, fired two shots at Mr Browning's car, and finally shot at Mr Browning when he looked out of a window. The shot missed the victim, but he was almost blinded by flying glass.

New poor created by credit boom

By Tony Hodges

The credit boom is helping to breed the nouveaux pauvres, according to the Money Advice Association, which provides free help to debtors throughout the country.

At the association's annual meeting in London yesterday, members were told there are now four million local authority tenants in arrears and 300,000 owner-occupiers three months or more behind with their mortgage.

In addition there are two million users of gas in difficulties with their bills and 140,000 householders disconnected from their fuel supply for non-payment.

There are at least 750,000 credit accounts in arrears and two million county court debt claims every year.

Mrs Ann Andrews, the association's chairman, said there is no sign in the foreseeable future of the situation improving. Instead, she said, the number of people in debt is likely to rise, as those already in financial trouble are joined by school leavers going into low-paid work.

Mrs Andrews said she was afraid that the problems of people in debt are likely to be compounded this year when legal rights to payments are

replaced, through the Social Services Act of 1986, by a discretionary Social Fund relying on budgetary advice and loans.

The association is also worried that Government cut-backs may see a significant reduction in "green form" legal aid for those seeking advice on housing and welfare benefit problems, usually the very poorest in society.

This type of legal aid is not cost limited and the association believes the Government would like to see a cash limit introduced.

One of the projects planned by the association is the launching later this year of a Money Advice Services Trust. Through this, banks, building societies, loan companies, financial institutions and other donors will be able to contribute to a central fund that will pay for money advice services to people in debt.

It also intends to establish a national credit register, that will remain confidential but still provide comprehensive and up-to-date information to protect the interests of both cash lenders and borrowers. The *Annual Report of the Money Advice Association* is available from 20 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DHL.

Tramp was burnt alive 'for fun'

Two men who set fire to a tramp "for a laugh" were convicted of murder at the Central Criminal Court in London yesterday.

Mr John Stratton who was destitute, died in agony, "caught like an animal in a trap," said Judge Robert Lyndbery QC.

Giovanni Ferraro, aged 24, a waiter of Deleford Street, and James Sunderland, aged 18, a student of Lillie Road, both from Fulham, south-west London, were found guilty of murdering Mr Stratton, aged 39, in Normand Park, Fulham, last August.

Ferraro was jailed for life and an order was made that Sunderland be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure.

Mr David Cocks QC, prosecuting, said Mr Stratton, an epileptic was befriended by Ferraro and Sunderland who bought him a meal of pie and chips. They helped to build a makeshift home in the park and Mr Stratton settled down to sleep. But at 2am he awoke screaming in agony. His shelter had been set ablaze with petrol and white spirit.

Gays fight for right of partners

A lesbian and gay unit set up by Labour-controlled Camden Council in north London is pressing for changes in the immigration laws to allow homosexuals to bring their partners to settle in Britain.

The unit, which cost more than £100,000 to launch, says that immigration controls are unfair to homosexuals.

"Relationships which may have been formed in other countries with people who are neither British citizens nor who have the right to settle here cannot be continued in this country," it says in a report.

"Consequently a need or desire to return to live in the UK on the part of the British partner means that such a relationship will be destroyed by the legal barriers to the entry of the non-British partner."

Conservative opposition councillors are threatening to boycott the committee. Their leader, Mr Peter Skolar, said: "We will have nothing to do with their stupid minority interests."

Remand for wines case

Four former public schoolboys, accused of stealing thousands of pounds worth of vintage wines from Fortnum & Mason, of Piccadilly, were remanded by magistrates yesterday.

Nicholas Tipkady, aged 26, an interviewer, of Camberwell Road, Camberwell, south London, Jonathan Jenkins, aged 26, unemployed, of Kingswood Road, Battersea, south London, and Donald Fraser, aged 22, of Wroughton Road, Battersea, are all accused of stealing property and

money from the store worth a total of £62,500.

Anthony Cox, aged 29, of Vauxhall Bridge Road, Victoria, central London, is charged only with theft of property.

The four former salesmen at the exclusive grocery store were remanded on unconditional bail at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, central London, until July 31 for committal proceedings. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

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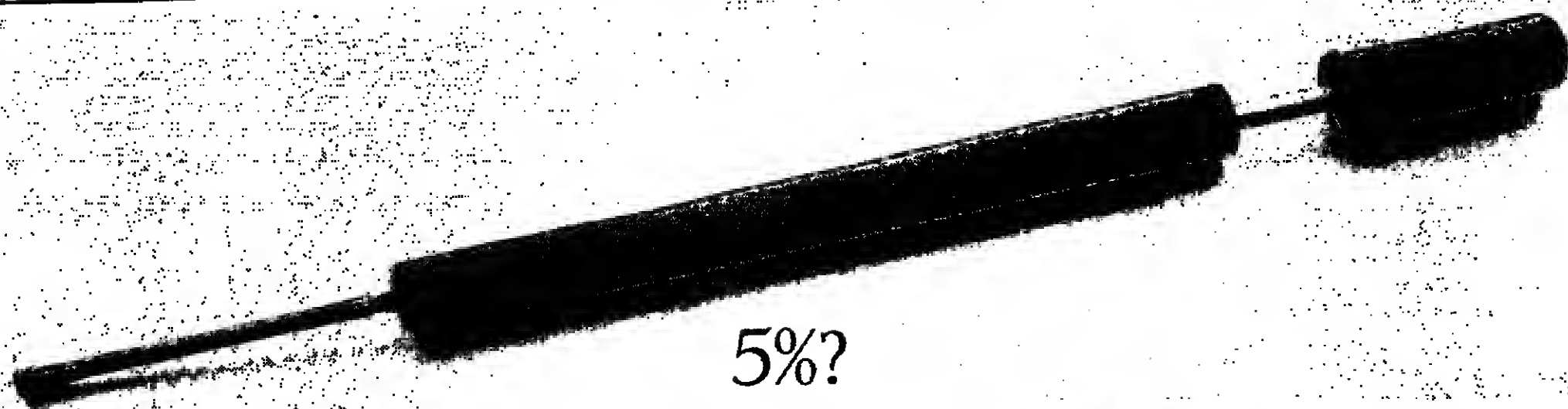
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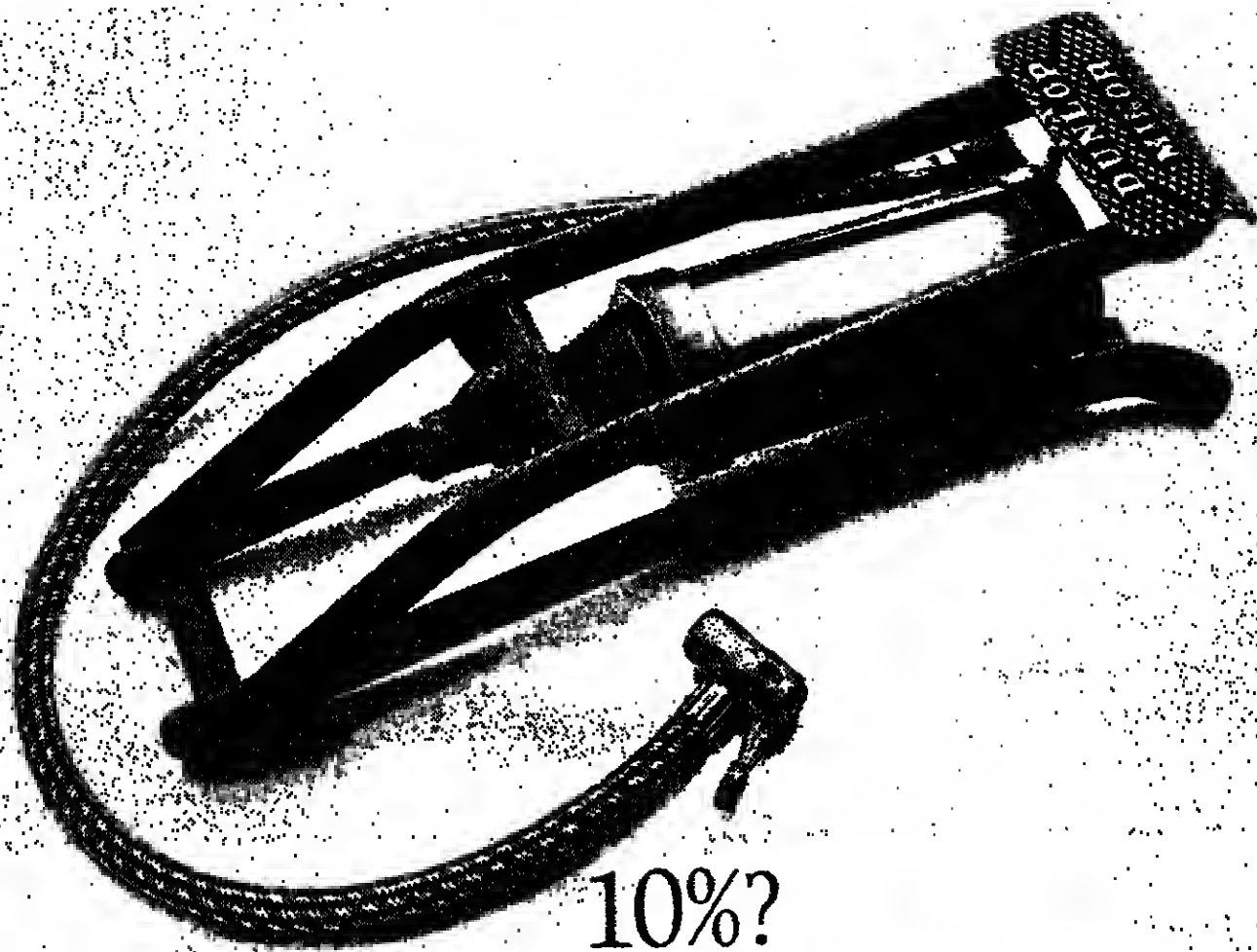
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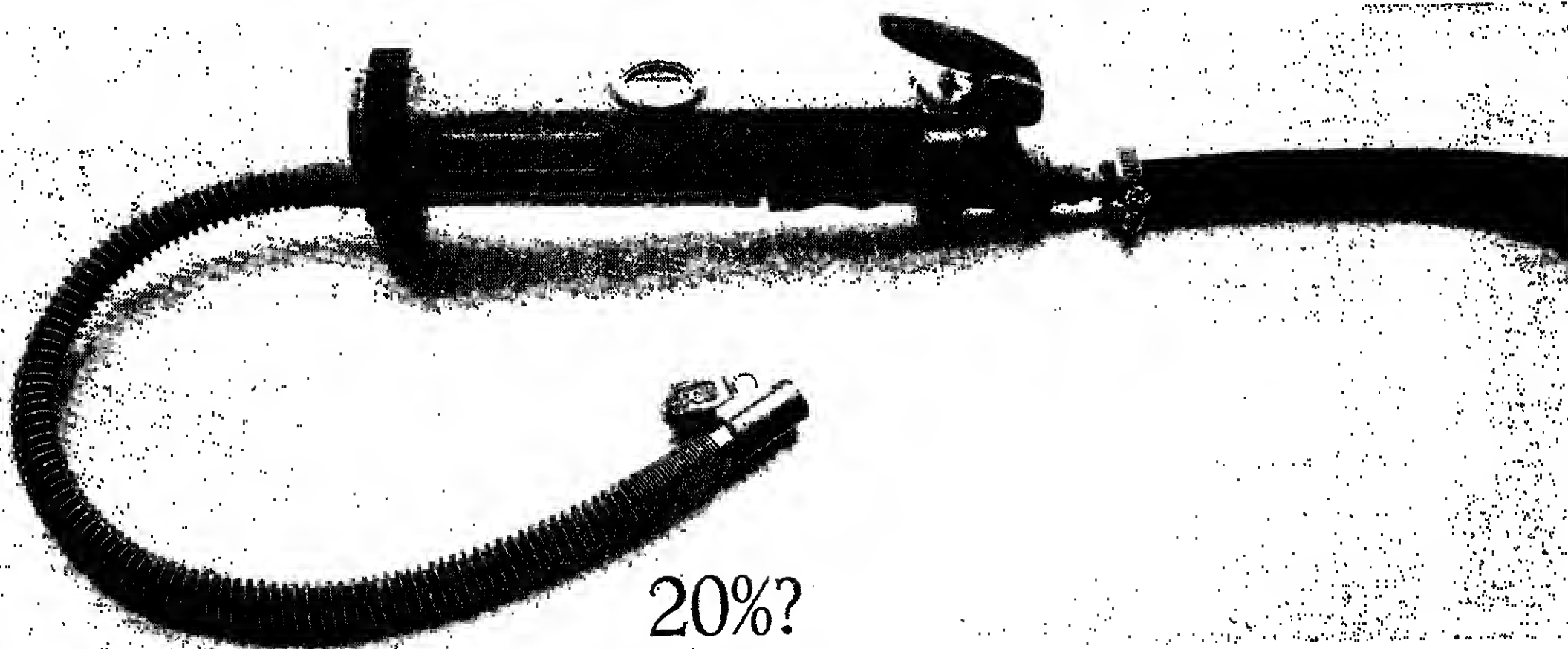
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WORLD SUMMARY

Police kill suspect in bush murders

Sydney — A man suspected of having killed five people in the Australian Outback was shot dead yesterday by police who said they believed his name was Josef Schwab, a German tourist in his thirties (Stephen Taylor writes).

After an intensive manhunt, the man, who had been in Australia since April when he hired a car in Queensland, was killed in a shootout near Fitzroy Crossing in Western Australia, when police investigating the vehicle were shot at. His last victims, a young woman and two men, were cold-bloodedly shot dead last weekend after they were ordered to strip naked and lie down on a river bank. Two men on a fishing holiday in the area had been murdered previously.

Courts are stormed Clashes at banks

Valletta — Opposition Socialist supporters yesterday evening attacked the courts of justice here, damaging furniture and setting files ablaze (Austin Sammut writes). Reports said they later broke into closed shops.

A magistrates court had been due to hear evidence against 15 Socialist supporters accused of "corrupt practices" at polling booths on election day, May 9. The hearing was adjourned after sympathizers charged and broke a police cordon to get into the courts. Police vehicles were also damaged.

Meanwhile, the 10-year-old dispute between the government and doctors was ended with an agreement yesterday.

Death squad captured

Jerusalem (Reuters) — Israel has captured in the occupied West Bank a key Palestinian guerrilla squad responsible for the murder of the Arab mayor of Nablus and five other murders or attempted murders in the past two years, security sources said yesterday.

The group belonged to the Syrian-backed left-wing Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which claimed responsibility for the assassination of the mayor, Mr Zafir al-Masri, last year, accusing him of collaborating with Israel. The sources said investigators were able to track the cell after an apparent attempt to kill the moderate Arab mayor of the West Bank town of Jenin last month.

Waldheim UK link to defended sex case

Vienna — Criticism of the forthcoming visit to the Vatican by President Waldheim of Austria was in the forefront of a campaign against the President as a war criminal. Dr Waldheim was not isolated and would close to accept many more of the already large numbers of invitations he had received.

Brussels — Police investigating a child-sex and pornography organization run from the offices of the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) in Brussels, now suspect a connection with a man arrested in Manchester earlier this year and have asked British police to help (Our Correspondent writes).

Detainees to be freed

Singapore — The Singapore Government indicated yesterday that it would release some of the 16 young men and women detained last month over an alleged Marxist plot to destabilize the republic (M.C.G. Pillai writes). Mr Bill Hayden, the Australian Foreign Minister, told reporters that he had this assurance from Mr S. Dhanabalan, his Singapore counterpart, when he raised the issue with him. He was also told that Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister, was to make a detailed statement on the detainees shortly.

Religious teaching law killed

From Charles Bremner New York

The US Supreme Court yesterday overturned a controversial law requiring Louisiana schools to teach biblical "creationism" along with the science of evolution in all courses on the origins of life.

The law, passed in Louisiana in 1981, was seen by critics as one of the most objectionable attempts by the strong fundamentalist Christian movement in the Southern states to impose religious teaching in state schools.

The court ruled in a 7-2 decision that the law violated the constitutional requirement which separates the church and state. The new Chief Justice, Mr William Rehnquist, was one of the two who dissented.

According to the ruling the law "impermissibly endorses religion by advancing the religious belief that a supernatural being created humankind". It said the law went far beyond existing national statutes allowing for silent prayer or meditation in the classroom and the posting of Christian references from the Constitution and US history.

The Supreme Court is expected to hear appeals against other moves by Southern states to re-inject an element of religious education in the curriculum. In the most publicized case, a court in neighbouring Alabama ordered a number of textbooks to be banned because they were held to promote the doctrines of "secular humanism". The phrase is used by fundamentalists to cover the atheist world view that has evolved in US society since the 1950s.

Girl in Hart scandal teases TV viewers

From Charles Bremner New York

Did Miss Donna Rice sleep with Mr Gary Hart? Much of America held its breath for the authoritative answer on Thursday night when the 29-year-old model, whose night in the Hart house ended his run for the Presidency, submitted herself to peak-time interrogation by Barbara Walters, television's mother-confessor.

"I don't want to answer you," said Miss Rice, who nevertheless depicted her link with the former senator in a strongly romantic light. Asked what she would advise her sister to do if she fell in love with a married man, Miss

Rice said: "There's a lot of single men out there — stick with some of them."

The interview was the first statement by Miss Rice, apart from a brief initial denial to the press, since reports of her friendship with the married senator drove him out of the Democratic race on May 8, sparked off a national debate on privacy, and raised the anxiety level of quite a few politicians.

The aspiring actress, dubbed "Miami Rice" by television comedians, described the affair as a tragedy and depicted herself as a victim who had made nothing from her relationship that began when she went for a cruise

on board a chartered motor yacht called The Monkey Business.

She complained that she had been hounded and badgered by the press and denounced her former friend, Miss Lynn Armandi, for selling the now notorious snapshot of her sitting on the candidate's lap on board The Monkey Business.

"It's just a real slap in the face, stab in the back, salt poured in an open wound," she said.

Miss Armandi hit back yesterday in an interview with a New York radio station, denying Miss Rice's charges that she was the anonymous woman who broke the story to the press and

giving more details of the alleged sexual relationship.

The Hart case has opened a whole new avenue of inquiry for the US media in their coverage of the 1988 presidential campaign. The New York Times has gone as far as to send a standard letter to each of the candidates asking them to turn over medical records, their FBI records, and lists of their closest friends.

Several have accepted. And in another politics-and-sex row, Mr Marion Barry, the Mayor of Washington, denied allegations to police on Thursday by a former woman friend that they had had an affair and that he had received cocaine from her.

Arias vows to save his peace plan despite Reagan rebuff

From Martha Honey, San José

President Arias of Costa Rica has vowed that he will "do everything necessary" to salvage the troubled Central American peace plan, despite his rebuff by President Reagan during talks in Washington this week.

The Arias plan, which has gained wide international and regional support since he presented it last February, calls for a cut-off of United States aid to the Nicaraguan Contras and a ceasefire, after which the Sandinistas would restore civil liberties and hold democratic elections.

But Costa Rican officials, returning with President Arias from the US on Thursday night, admitted that there is little reason for optimism following Mr Reagan's blunt criticism of the plan. They concede that the peace plan cannot succeed if Washington opposes it.

At an airport press conference, Dr Arias admitted: "I have tried by all means to persuade the Reagan Administration that this is the major way out (of the Nicaraguan conflict) but I have not succeeded, as they are still talking of introducing reforms (to the plan)."

President Reagan has said that he is convinced only continued military pressure, including US aid to the Contras, will force the Sandinistas to adopt internal

democratic reforms. But President Arias says these two approaches are irreconcilable.

While in the US this week on a private visit, President Arias was summoned to a one-hour meeting with Mr Reagan, on Wednesday. He later met Vice-President George Bush and other top government officials in what both sides described as the most frank and full US criticism to date of the peace plan.

These meetings took place amid successful efforts by El Salvador's conservative Government to postpone a five-nation Central American summit on the peace plan, which was scheduled for next week in Guatemala.

The meeting has now been tentatively rescheduled for early August, but President Ortega of Nicaragua has called the postponement a US manoeuvre to scuttle the summit and announced that he will not attend.

Dr Arias said that there can be no peace in Central America if Nicaragua is excluded, adding that he was willing to persuade Señor Ortega to change his mind.

Although certain differences remained among the five Central American states, the Arias plan has been widely viewed as providing the only hope for a lasting settlement of the Nicaraguan conflict.



Señora Katalina Mejia, with her little son, grieving for her uncle, Mariano, who was killed in a Contra attack on a Nicaraguan state farm at Los Milones, 150 miles south of Managua.

Awkward questions left in Panama

By David Gollob

One week after the most violent disturbances in decades, Panama has returned to normal. Troops have been withdrawn from the streets of the capital, and a business-led strike has collapsed. The state of emergency continues, but more than 100 political detainees have been released. The attempt to oust the military strongman, General Manuel Noriega, is history.

Was the chaos engineered by businessmen in collusion with the Reagan Administration, as members of the governing Revolutionary Democratic Party have alleged? Or was it, as the Opposition maintains, a spontaneous outpouring of indignation, triggered by accusations that General Noriega was guilty of murder and electoral fraud?

Sources close to the business community have confirmed reports that a group of business leaders, led by a former Noriega ally, Señor Gabriel Lewis, approached power brokers in the Army and the Government last week in an abortive attempt to stage a palace coup.

Although ousting General Noriega might have had symbolic value, few Panamanians believed the military could be separated from their 20-year grip on political power.

Pretoria preparing to get tough with Namibia

From Michael Hornsby Windhoek

A South African Government delegation led by Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister, and General Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister, met Namibian Government leaders for several hours here yesterday for negotiations considered crucial for the constitutional future of the territory.

The Namibian Government, a South African-appointed body, has shown unexpected independence in drawing up a draft constitution which is understood to make no provision for protecting ethnic minorities.

At a meeting with members of Namibia's multi-racial Cabinet, which represents the six parties comprising the "transitional government of national unity", last month in Cape Town, President Botha made it clear that Pretoria would not approve such a constitution.

"Since the political structure in South Africa is built very much on statutorily defined race groups, it seems that President Botha is very touchy about the question of group rights, and is not prepared to see a precedent set here which could influence the debate in South Africa," Mr Eberhard Hofmann, the Namibian Government's press spokesman, said.

Earlier this month, the Namibian Cabinet was informed that Pretoria had decided to reduce South Africa's Johannesburg — The editor and a former reporter of the Eastern Province Herald, Port Elizabeth, were fined yesterday for publishing "untrue accounts" of police action during black township unrest (Ray Kennedy writes).

South Africa, which occupies Namibia in violation of international law and United Nations resolutions, has granted virtual autonomy to the local Government in Windhoek, but still maintains there an Administrator-General who has the final say on constitutional and security issues.

The Namibian Government is not recognized internationally and is also boycotted by a number of significant local political groups, and most importantly by the South West Africa People's Organization, which has been fighting a desultory guerrilla war against South African forces since 1966.

The Windhoek Cabinet is in a dilemma. If it caves in to pressure and re-drafts the constitution, it will lose what little credibility it enjoys in Namibia, but if it stands firm, Pretoria is likely to return to direct rule.

● Johannesburg: Eighteen people were killed and 84 injured when a bus packed with black miners was hit by a goods train at an ungaurded level crossing near Rustenburg, 100 miles from Johannesburg, early yesterday (Ray Kennedy writes).

● Jobs Bill: A Bill to remove the last vestiges of job reservation in the South African mining industry has been tabled in Parliament.

Iranians take UK line on envoys

By Andrew McEwen Diplomatic Correspondent

Signs that Iranian authorities may tacitly accept Britain's moves to mothball diplomatic relations emerged yesterday. But whether they will be able to contain expected pressure from students and radicals to react strongly remained unclear.

There were two hopeful developments: Iran delivered a diplomatic note in which it effectively adopted the British measures as its own, and Ayatollah Ardabili, chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council, abstained from mentioning the crisis during the Friday prayer sermon at Tehran University.

There had been speculation that a complete break in diplomatic relations with Britain would be announced. But the Ayatollah devoted his statement on foreign policy to an attack on the "aggressive intentions of the United States and its servants in the regime".

The Foreign Office said Iran had sent a note which in effect presented the measures

Baghdad — The Iranian Mujahedin opposition group said yesterday that it had formed an Iranian National Liberation Army to fight the Tehran Government (Reuters reports).

The Mujahedin stepped up attacks on Iranian military positions on the northern border with Iraq after the Mujahedin leader, Mr Massoud Rajavi, arrived in Baghdad a year ago.

that Britain announced on Thursday as if they had been decided by Iran.

The note, delivered to the British Interests Section, ordered Britain to withdraw one of its two diplomats in Tehran. It also announced that Iran will pull out all but one of its own envoys from London.

These measures are identical to the ones announced by Britain.

The note also said that the decision was taken on Tuesday. A Foreign Office spokesman said that if this was true, no mention was made of it on Tuesday at a meeting between Mr Christopher MacRae, Head of the British Interests Section, and a senior official at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

It was at the same meeting that Mr MacRae, accompanied by the Swedish Ambassador, informed Iran of the decisions taken in Whitehall. The Iranian official replied with entirely different counter-proposals.

Although observers commented that the note smacked of face-saving, the Foreign Office spokesman was cautious. If it is Tehran's way of drawing the dispute to a close it will be tacitly welcomed in Whitehall. But it was not clear yesterday whether it was intended to have that effect.

Iranian non-government sources doubted that the matter was closed.

Nato's eastern flank Allies wave the flag in Turkey

From Richard Owen Erzurum, east Turkey

Flying low through the rugged mountains of eastern Turkey in an RAF Puma helicopter, a Turkish Army escort gestured at the ravines below and made as if to spray us with machine-gun fire.

The Nato exercise "Aurora Express", being carried out near the Soviet border this month, is intended to demonstrate to Moscow that an attack on Turkey in this remote region would invite a firm Nato response.

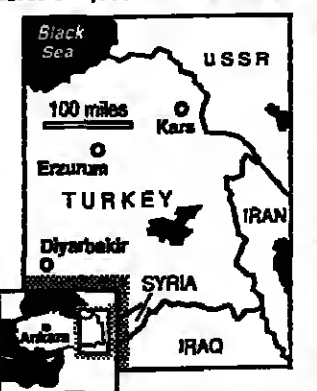
It also underlines the general instability of the area and its vital strategic significance to Turkey, which borders not only Russia but also Iran, Iraq and Syria, and is an area where Kurdish insurgents are providing trouble for several governments.

As East and West move towards reducing tensions in Central Europe, the focus is shifting to Nato's exposed flanks. Its Allied Mobile Force (AMF) — a light infantry and air contingent drawn from Britain, Belgium, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the United States — has existed since 1960 as a rapid deployment force designed to deter aggression from northern Norway to eastern Turkey by "showing the flag" in regular deterrent exercises.

This week Aurora Express went into a "combat phase", on the assumption that the defence had failed and Russia had attacked through the mountain valleys via Kars and Erzurum, perhaps linking up with Syrian forces. The Soviet troops are represented by Turkish soldiers.

seriously by the Turkish military. Turkey has in reality detected a strengthening of Soviet forces along the 800-mile border, including the deployment of a "very effective" brigade of Spetsnaz forces consisting of Turkish-speaking commandos trained in sabotage, assassination and insurrection. Many of the troops in the 22 regular Soviet divisions near the border have served in Afghanistan.

Nobody in Nato or the Turkish Ninth Army Corps, which normally defends the border zone, pretends that the small Nato rapid deployment force of 5,000 men could hold



up an assault by the 100,000 Russians on the other side. But according to the dashing and charismatic commander of the Nato force, General Franco Angioni, the Nato assumption is that it could send more help. Turkey would mobilize its huge army of more than 500,000 men, the second largest in the alliance after the US, and the "proud and conservative people" of eastern Turkey would fight to the last man. In addition, there are short-range nuclear missiles near the border, although Nato will neither confirm nor deny this.

Because of the increased

threat, Erzurum's one-strip airfield (the centre of the Nato airlift of troops and equipment) is to be developed to complement Diyarbakir, from where a small force of Belgian and West German fighter-bombers is making sorties against imagined Soviet invaders. The Turks are also updating their obsolete tanks and artillery — much of it of Second World War vintage — with American and German help.

It remains a worry for Nato planners, however, that Turkey, despite its EEC application, is still seen in Europe as an imperfect democracy influenced behind the scenes by the military. This difference of systems is reflected in the frustration of some Nato troops with Turkish attitudes. Turkish officials object to the term "flank", arguing that "the centre is where you are". The question none the less arises whether the public, which regards the Central European frontier in Germany as a common Nato border, would necessarily feel the same way about this distant and deeply Islamic region. Many Turks, for that matter, are sceptical about whether, apart from the token AMF force, Nato would really commit large-scale forces to Turkey.

Above all, although the Nato effort is directed against Russia, Turkey's actual problems are with her other neighbours. The Gulf War, in which Turkey has stayed neutral and is even seen as a possible mediator, has brought turmoil to the area, and the growth of Islamic fundamentalism in Turkey is being fuelled by the presence of an estimated one to two million illegal immigrants from Iran.

Iraq, for its part, turns a

blind eye to Turkish "hot pursuit" air raids into Iraqi territory against Kurdish guerrilla bases, but the Kurdish question causes tension between Baghdad and Ankara just as it does between Baghdad and Tehran, especially since the centre of Kurdish activity is the south-eastern town of Diyarbakir close to the Iraqi and Syrian borders, and there are frequent clashes there between Turkish troops and Kurdish gunmen.

Relations with Damascus are described in Ankara as uneasy — because Syria has territorial claims on Turkey and "gives refuge and assistance to terrorist groups". On top of this is the threat posed by the Soviet military presence in Syria. This means that, even when the rapid deployment force is airlifted back to Europe at the end of the month and General Angioni goes back to his headquarters at Heidelberg, Nato commanders will keep a close eye on the variety of potential threats to Turkey.

The exercise marks the second time in four years that the AMF has been deployed in eastern Turkey. According to General Siyamiy Tashian, the commander of the Second Tactical Air Force at Diyarbakir, Turkey would like to see Nato troops "waving the flag" on an annual basis.

The official Nato scenario envisages a Soviet attack taking advantage of political and economic instability in Western Europe, weakening Europe's ability to defend Nato's flanks. But instability in the Middle East itself is clearly no less alarming to the Western powers, and possibly no less threatening to Western interests as a whole.

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Syria determined on quick end to kidnap challenge

From Juan Carlos Gennacio, Beirut

Syria yesterday appeared determined to obtain the release of an American journalist and the son of Lebanon's Minister of National Defence, both of whom were abducted in west Beirut and whose plight has become an insulting challenge to Syrian plans in Lebanon.

None of the groups holding more than two dozen foreigners hostage has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of Mr Charles Glass and Mr Ali Ouseiran on Wednesday. Both men and a Mr Suleiman, who was acting as their driver, were seized by gunmen as they drove from Sidon through the Shia Muslim district of Ouzai.

Their car was intercepted about 500 yards from a checkpoint of the Syrian Army. Captors and captives then disappeared in the alleyways and presumably headed towards Beirut's southern suburbs, a base of pro-Iranian Muslim militants. That area has remained off-limits for the estimated 8,000 Syrian troops who were sent to west Beirut last February as part of a Syrian plan aimed at ending more than a decade of chaos and violence in Lebanon.

Mr Adel Ouseiran, the 79-year-old Lebanese Minister of National Defence, himself a Shia Muslim, had first told reporters that the Hezbollah (Party of God) was behind the abductions. Amid denials by Hezbollah officials, he later retracted his statement.

The kidnapping of Mr Glass and Mr Ouseiran has become too big an affair to be handled alone by any of the Lebanese kidnapping gangs.

Mr Glass is not only a close friend of the Ouseiran family, but was their guest at their house near Sidon. The abduction of the minister's son adds another important factor that has increased the embarrassment for the Syrians, who had publicly announced that the days of kidnappings and daily violence were over. They had also invited all foreigners who had fled Beirut to return after the army deployment that ended three years of militia reign.

The kidnapping of Mr Glass, Mr Ouseiran and Mr Suleiman is simply too striking a blow to the credibility of the Syrians were so careful to build in Lebanon. Should they fail to rescue the captives their entire mission in Lebanon could be questioned. If they try to get Mr Glass, Mr Ouseiran and Mr Suleiman by force, they would also have to risk a dangerous confrontation with extremist factions.

The high level at which negotiations are now taking place has enhanced the optimism among the Ouseiran family and friends of Mr Glass in Lebanon. There were reports that the kidnappers had initiated contacts with Syrian officials in Beirut, and that members of the Ouseiran family had been indirectly in touch with the captors.

Mr Ouseiran personally contacted Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, a prominent Shia Muslim scholar who is regarded as the spiritual leader of Hezbollah. The Syrians are said to have made discreet contacts with the Iranian Embassy, apart from a series of other communications with almost every single group that could provide information or have influence over the kidnappers.

The Syrians have reportedly made it very clear that they want the three men freed as soon as possible.

Poll revelry in Bahamas



Sir Lynden Pindling, the Prime Minister of the Bahamas, dancing with a supporter at a rally on the eve of yesterday's national election.

Boeing accepts its JAL crash blame

From A Correspondent, Tokyo

Boeing, the American aircraft maker, yesterday for the first time took responsibility for the 1985 crash of a Japan Airlines 747 which killed all but four of the 524 people on board.

As well as naming Boeing, a final Japanese Government report blamed the Japanese Ministry of Transport for the worst airline disaster in history.

The head of the investigating committee, Mr Shun Takeda, said that faulty repairs by a Boeing team in 1978 caused the crash. The team had repaired a bulkhead which gradually weakened and finally ruptured on August 12 1985, smashing the plane's control mechanisms and sending it crashing into

the side of a mountain. The report showed that Ministry of Transport inspectors signed a release for the plane without seeing the repairs.

Boeing had already admitted its repairs were faulty but had not connected them with the disaster. Yesterday in a statement it agreed with the committee's findings.

Boeing said that a repeat of the disaster was almost inconceivable, but that it was nevertheless modifying all 747s to ensure it did not happen again.

The committee exonerated the crew, praising them for desperate attempts to save the plane while suffering the effects of depressurization.

Russians to shoot student for rioting

Moscow (Reuters) — A student has been sentenced to death by firing squad for his role in rioting in Alma-Ata, the capital of Soviet Kazakhstan, last December.

The republic's Communist Party newspaper, *Kazakhstanskaya Pravda*, said a carpenter, a welder and two more students had been sentenced to strict-regime labour camp terms of four to 15 years.

Two people were killed and some 200 were injured in the disturbances in the Central Asian republic.

Dam protest

Vienna — A group of Austrian Greens occupied their country's embassy in Budapest to protest at financial support for Hungary's hydro-electric power station to be built along the Danube at Nagymaros.

Friendly trip

Peking (Reuters) — The first high-level Chinese delegation to visit Mongolia in more than 20 years arrived in Ulan Bator aiming to step up the slow thaw in relations between the two countries.

Mercy mission

Moscow (AP) — A group of Soviet eye specialists has received permission to travel to the United States to treat Leonard Peltier, an American Indian imprisoned in 1977 for killing two FBI agents.

Police rape

Harare (AFP) — Zimbabwe's High Court awarded a woman more than £10,000 compensation after she had been wrongfully imprisoned for 37 days, assaulted and raped 10 times by a policeman.

Paris blast

Paris (AFP) — A bomb near the Paris offices of a French electronics firm which represents the US chemical giant Union Carbide blew out windows but caused no casualties.

Site destroyed

Ibiza (Reuters) — Bulldozers belonging to a development company have destroyed a 2,700-year-old Phoenician burial ground in Ibiza, the oldest archaeological site on the Mediterranean island.

The coup in Sharjah

Ruler deposed for 'corruption'

From Robert Fisk, Dubai

Sheikh Abdul-Aziz al-Qasbi, who with disquieting efficiency overthrew his brother, Sheikh Sultan, as the ruler of Sharjah this week, has at last spoken about the reasons for his takeover, accusing Sheikh Sultan of "corruption and extravagance".

Promising to raise money to cover the millions of pounds owed by Sharjah, he claimed that his ruling al-Qasbi family was behind him and appealed to other Gulf states, especially Kuwait, to help pay off the Emirates' debts.

Sheikh Abdul-Aziz al-Qasbi, who usurped his brother's position apparently with the approval of Abu Dhabi, told Kuwaiti journalists that Sheikh Sultan had been "forced to step down" by his family and that he was now "the legitimate ruler because I enjoy the support of the family". Sheikh Sultan, he said, could return to Sharjah if he wished, but his troops would open fire on "anyone who wanted to jeopardize security".

Sheikh Sultan had spent the Emirates' oil income on "imaginary projects" — a reference to Sharjah's new covered market, unfinished television station and unopened national museum — and had used the newspaper *al-Khaleej* (The Gulf) as a mouthpiece. The paper has now been closed.

Within the Emirates, however, Sharjah's neighbour Dubai has refused to accept the takeover and has employed its local press to reflect this attitude. "Sultan receives greetings", the headline in the *Gulf News* announced in Dubai yesterday, and the point could hardly have been

missed. There was a profile photograph of the sheikh — referred to pointedly as "The Ruler of Sharjah" — with a relative on the point of planting a ritual kiss on his cheek.

All day yesterday ministers from the other six sheikhdoms attended a meeting of the United Arab Emirates' Supreme Council at al-Ain, to debate this week's embarrassing coup down in Sharjah. A "little family affair", as one Abu Dhabi official charitably called it yesterday, but one which is causing growing concern, simply because it is taking so long to resolve.

The Emirates' Federal Gov-

ernment now appears to have three options:

● To arrange for the formal resignation of Sheikh Sultan and to accept the *status quo* of his brother's power;

● To seek the resignation of Sheikh Abdul-Aziz and the reinstatement of Sheikh Sultan, a process that might involve some peculiar rearrangements within the al-Qasbi family;

● The appointment of an entirely new ruler in Sharjah and the abeyance of any further claims from the two brothers.

The first of these would be unacceptable to Dubai, where the ruling al-Maktoum family is wedded to the idea of sheikhly rule. The second option would be an embarrassing one for Sheikh Zayed, who is also President of the Emirates, since he is a close personal friend of Sheikh Abdul-Aziz.

The third choice needs profound thought and conversation, both qualities for which the Emirates' rulers would feel themselves well suited. Which may be why the Supreme Council is deliberating for at least four hours a day.



Sheikh Abdul-Aziz al-Qasbi — seeking international help after claiming he is the legitimate ruler of the Gulf state of Sharjah. He says he "enjoys the support of my family" after the overthrow of his brother, Sheikh Sultan.

THIS SUNDAY, AN ISSUE OF LIFE & DEATH.

There are probably more than 100,000 people carrying the AIDS virus in this country. The rest of us suffer from another potentially fatal condition: ignorance.

Tomorrow, a special edition of The Sunday Times Magazine is devoted to a detailed study of what has been called 'the major health problem in the world this century'.

We talk to sufferers: angry, indifferent or vengeful. We meet their helpers: the professional 'buddies' who care for those living with AIDS.

As scientists struggle for a cure, we distinguish hype from hope and look inside the workings of the unique virus that destroys the very system that was designed to destroy it.

And Anthony Burgess writes about the myths and morals that are changing our lives.

You may not be infected by AIDS, but one thing is certain: you will be affected by it. Tomorrow's Magazine puts the facts, and the feelings into perspective.

THIS ISSUE IS ABOUT AIDS IT IS ALSO ABOUT YOU

SPYING ON THE RUSSIANS FOR MI6 TRUE CONFESSIONS OF A DOUBLE GLAZING AGENT

When MI6 approached double glazer Bill Graham to bug the Russian Trade Delegation, he saw the job through.



REVIEW

NEW SCREEN & PRINT

Exclusive interview with Tim Renton, the new media Minister

NEW FOOD & WINE

Tesco v. Sainsbury: the supermarket wine battle.

NEW LISTINGS

Your complete guide to what's on and where in the week ahead.

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What the Tories have in store for your children's education.

THE SUNDAY TIMES
BETTER THAN A MONTH OF OTHER SUNDAYS

Congress dismay at scale of Haryana defeat

Humiliated Gandhi urged to quit

From Gavin Bell
Delhi

The humiliating electoral reversal suffered by Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, in Haryana, a traditional stronghold of his ruling Congress (I) Party, predictably led yesterday to opposition calls for his resignation.

But more disturbing for the Prime Minister and his waning political fortunes were increasing signs of discontent with his leadership within his own party. Several Congress members of Parliament are known to have urged President Zail Singh to dismiss the Prime Minister.

The margin of defeat clearly shocked Congress leaders. With all but three of the 87 results declared, the main opposition Lok Dal and its allies the BJP (Indian People's Party) had captured 72 seats in the state assembly, with Congress holding on to only four.

The Chief Minister, Mr Bansi Lal, and 15 of his Cabinet colleagues, were swept from office by what Indian newspapers called with some justification "a political hurricane". India's two Communist parties each gained a seat, and the rest went to independents.

It was the tenth straight defeat for Mr Gandhi's party in state elections since he took office in 1984, but by far the most damaging. The test in Haryana was the first in the country's Hindu heartland, a bastion of the Congress party, and had been widely regarded as a referendum on the Prime Minister.

The Lok Dal success is attributed largely to a vigorous campaign by its leader, Mr Devi Lal, who focused on alleged corruption in the national Government and on its failure to quell Sikh violence



A triumphant Mr H.N. Babugma, the president of India's Lok Dal (People's Party), with jubilant supporters celebrating his runaway victory in the Haryana state election.

in the neighbouring Punjab.

The latter issue is of particular concern to the Hindu farmers of Haryana, who have been watching with mounting alarm the terror campaign being waged across the border by Sikh gunmen fighting for an independent state. More than 400 people, many of

them Hindus, have been killed this year in attacks blamed on Sikh extremists.

Moves by Mr Gandhi to resolve an irrigation dispute between the two states by increasing Haryana's allocation of river waters apparently had less effect than Mr Devi Lal's pledge to write off all

farm loans below 15,000 rupees (£750).

The wound inflicted on the Prime Minister is serious, but far from being fatal or, at this stage, even crippling. Midway through his five-year term, he still controls the ruling lower house of Parliament with an overwhelming majority he

gained after the assassination of his mother, Mrs Indira Gandhi.

A simmering dispute with Mr Zail Singh appears to have been shelved by mutual consent, and the President, whose term of office expires next month, has shown no signs that he is prepared to spark a constitutional crisis by backing dissident moves against the Prime Minister.

However, the defeat has seriously undermined Mr Gandhi's credibility as an election talisman, the man who can win votes for the Congress Party.

The rumblings of discontent in Congress are tempered by an anti-defection law which stipulates that anyone leaving his party thereby loses his seat — unless one-third of the party rebels.

While this seems unlikely at present, several Congress members are known to favour Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the former Defence Minister, as an eventual alternative to Mr Gandhi.

Mr V.P. Singh, who is widely regarded as one of the most honest men in the Cabinet, resigned in April after instituting an inquiry into alleged defence contract payoffs which embarrassed the Government.

On the local level, the Lok Dal victory will limit Mr Gandhi's capacity to deal with the Punjab imbroglio, as he will no longer be able to push through reforms with the Sikhs without the support of the rulers in Haryana.

A seasoned political commentator in Delhi said yesterday: "Congress was wiped out in Haryana, but the attacks will now be directed at Mr Gandhi, rather than the party. I expect the pressure to increase from all sides."

Leading article, page 11

Aids cuts wide swath through arts world

New York View
By Charles Bremner

The Aids epidemic has crossed another psychological threshold in America following speeches from President Reagan that sharpened public anxiety and a growing awareness that the disease is laying waste a whole generation in the worlds of arts and entertainment.

In the surest sign that Aids has swung the public mood about sex, Hollywood and television have begun turning out films that allude to the disease or shun promiscuity. Even James Bond is being allowed only one female conquest in the latest 007 adventure, *The Living Daylights*.

With more than 20,000 Americans already dead from the disease, President Reagan first confronted the subject in public only two weeks ago. He called for compulsory testing of prisoners, immigrants and those applying for marriage licences and warned that "Aids is surreptitiously spreading throughout our population".

As his allies sounded off about the Plague and Black Death, opinion polls showed Americans suddenly ranking Aids just behind war and peace and the economy as a priority issue. Homosexual and other groups have continued to denounce the Administration for doing too little too late, and for treating the virus as a punishment for homosexuality.

The debate heated up this week after the conservative Senator Jesse Helms called for quarantine for people found to be carrying the virus. The Education Secretary, Mr William Bennett, also provoked an outcry with a suggestion that prison inmates be held after their sentences if they threatened to spread the virus.

President Reagan's son, Ron, a dancer and journalist, has stepped into the argument, promoting safe sex in pub-

licity films and criticizing the Government. "Let somebody in Washington know you don't think enough is being done. Write to your congressman or to someone higher up," he says with a wink.

The President's approach has come under fire from experts who say that, while a serious threat to heterosexuals, the disease is staying largely among the high-risk groups — homosexuals, drug addicts and their partners. According to one of many statistics, a woman stands only a one-in-a-thousand chance of infection through one sexual act with a carrier.

Dr Harold Jaffe, the chief epidemiologist of the government body dealing with Aids,



Washington — Surgeon-General C. Everett Koop, above, told Congress this week: "The thing we would like to tell you, but can't, is if we are standing on the threshold of a heterosexual explosion of Aids" (AP reports). "We will know in six to eight months."

said: "We really have not seen much evidence for the spread of the virus outside the risk groups. For most people, the risk of Aids is essentially zero."

The *New York Times* this week accused the Reagan Administration of "infecting the population at large with an epidemic of fear", then reacting to public hysteria with irrelevant exhortations on testing. It appealed for more effort to stem the ravages among the "talented community" of homosexuals.

Aids has hit hard in the world of the arts in New York, a city where at least 500,000 people are believed to be carrying the virus. The pall of despair is almost tangible in Greenwich Village, where business has slumped in restaurants and shops and funeral cars and young mourners can be seen daily in the streets.

Ms Beverly Sills, director of the City Opera, said her company was now paralysed with fear after losing two directors, a male singer, dancers and two make-up artists. "I've delivered so many eulogies, written so many letters of condolence... that I don't know what to say anymore," she said.

Last month Mr Charles Ludlam, a leading actor-playwright, died of Aids just as his company was about to launch the *New York Shakespeare Festival's Titus Andronicus*. The production was cancelled. He and other celebrated victims, such as pianist Liberace and film star Rick Hudson, are among an ever-growing rollcall of musicians, dancers, actors, artists and unsung backstage figures in the creative world who have succumbed to the disease.

In the wider commercial world, the pop singer Miss Cyndi Lauper has just scored a hit with "Boy Blue", written for an Aids victim friend. The public alarm and the new caution are just percolating into television and Hollywood is revamping films already in production to remove promiscuity.

China's heartland puts productivity ahead of ideology

From Robert Grievies, Chongqing, Sichuan

Mr Zhang Ping, manager of the No. 1 Cotton Textile Dyeing and Printing Plant in Chengdu, the capital of China's Sichuan province, paused for a moment under a huge banner that hung from the ceiling of his factory. "Support socialism, oppose bourgeois liberalization," read the banner.

"What does bourgeois liberalization mean to you?" a Western visitor had just asked him. "Uh, it means the negation of the four cardinal principles of socialism," he replied. "We must all work for the ideological welfare of the employees."

Here, in the political and geographical heartland of China, the ideological campaign in Peking that since January has turned out of office Mr Hu Yaobang, the

Peking — Fresh forest fires, triggered by lightning, threaten to become China's second national disaster in two months. Mr Tian Jiyun, a Deputy Prime Minister, said yesterday (Reuters reports)

Three separate blazes, one of them out of control, have burnt more than 30,000 acres of woodland in Inner Mongolia since lightning started them a week ago.

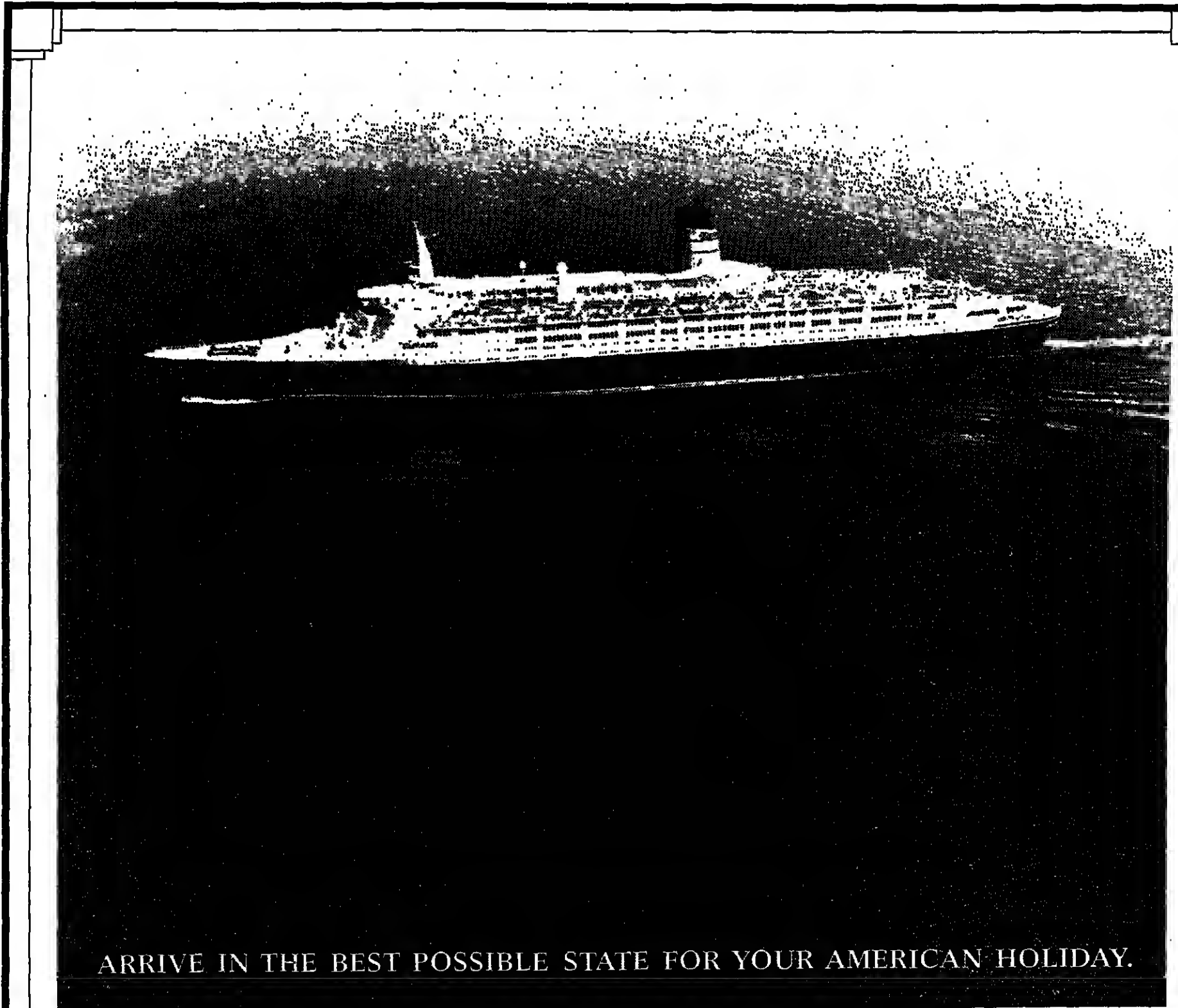
Mr Tian, along with other government and army officials, is co-ordinating fire fighting at Hailar, in the north-eastern Inner Mongolian region near the border with the Soviet Union.

The high level of command for fighting the Inner Mongolian fires comes after controversy over the handling of the forest fire in neighbouring Heilongjiang province last month, in which 193 people were killed and 50,000 others made homeless. The fire was put out earlier this month.

General Secretary of the Communist Party, closed several newspapers and demoted a handful of academics and bureaucrats, makes little sense.

What makes more sense is the roar of the 2,500 looms that turn out 379 million feet of cloth a year. That production level accounts for about 50 per cent of Chengdu's total textile production. The plant's 12,200 workers weave the cloth (cotton and synthetic fibres), dye it, and make shirts, jackets and skirts from West German, Japanese and Shanghai designs. The output value of the plant in 1986 was 307 million yuan (\$59 million). Profits totalled £10 million. Those figures are based on domestic sales of the plant's products as well as shipments in Japan, East Europe and other parts of the world via Hong Kong.

Mr Zhang, a native of Shandong province, has worked at the plant for 22 years.



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SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Weeping matter

The world's supply of cricket bats is in danger as England's willow trees are threatened by a blight that could become as serious as Dutch Elm Disease. The willow disease, called Watermark, was held in check for a while but is again on the increase. Willow growers and bat manufacturers such as Duncan Fearnley of Worcestershire are worried about the future of the industry. Fearnley said: "The disease creeps up the middle of the tree, weakens it and stops its growth. Affected trees don't grow big enough to make cricket bats. The disease has doubled and trebled and is now galloping again." He thinks government action is needed and that Colin Moynihan, the new Minister for Sport, should give the matter his urgent attention.

Legging it

This week's extraordinary cricketing feat will be close to the heart of all who play at that level of the game in which members of the batting team also stand as umpires, as of course, the great Tewin Irregulars always do. Colin Franks recalls a match between Coventry and North Warwick and Nondescripts in which a Nondescript bowler, Tony Lousada, was given an lbw decision by the Coventry 12th man. In came the next batsman, and the same umpire gave him out first ball, also lbw. It was too much for the Coventry captain, who ordered the umpire off the field, sent on a replacement and then walked out to bat himself. The new umpire gave him out first ball. Lbw.

Openers

Widen is the post cricket person's cigarette card. To own a complete set of the cricketing bible is nirvana, with an appropriate price tag on the early ones. But fear not: more reproduction editions are coming along. Willows Publishing Company of Stone, Staffs, run by teacher and village cricketer David Jenkins, have already done some repro editions and have now concluded an agreement with John Widen and Co to do a lot more: they can bring out two a year for the next five years from the period 1879-1890. Jenkins' reproduction of 1880 will appear in a limited edition of 500 at the end of the month.

Straight up

The bike is "not much for turning, but it is pure hell on the straightway." What Hunter S. Thompson says of a Vincent Black Shadow motor cycle in *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* holds good for the 21-seater pushbike which Guildford Adventure Play Centre is entering in the London to Brighton bike ride tomorrow. It weighs two tons (three when fully laden), and has reached 10 mph on the straight. But it is 18 feet long, doesn't bend in the middle and the steering man needs such enormous strength to control the damn thing that such wild excesses are largely proscribed.

Nap selection

Do jockeys get saddle-sores? Sitting on those ridiculously tiny saddles during the interminable milling about as the horses are loaded into the stalls does, it seems, have a deleterious effect on that most precious of riding assets, the backside. Cash Assmusen has countered the problem by adopting a fleecy saddle cover; and at Ascot this week Pat Eddery followed his lead, favouring a number in a rather nasty shade of orange.

● The England cricketers have been speculating on what OBE might stand for ever since Mike Gatting got one. "Overweight Brunston Eater" is one that can at least be used in mixed company.

Rallying round

Wimbledon starts on Monday: time to start agonizing about why Brits don't make tennis champions. Occasionally people do more than talk: one bunch got together with a wild ambition of improving British tennis and decided to raise money to send promising young players on scholarships to American universities. They wrote to all 2,400 tennis clubs affiliated to the Lawn Tennis Association asking them to sell raffle tickets and to suggest promising youngsters. The response to the former: 6 per cent. The latter: one. "But we won't give up," the group's chief organizer, Hilary West, insists.

BARRY FANTONI



"Why not sell off your stuff and save my bank account?"

Why cut the apron strings?

Clifford Longley questions the Anglican proposal to condemn Freemasonry

The Great Architect of the Universe, as Freemasons call the Almighty, is presumably not feeling too pleased today with the Church of England. The church has started to undermine the very foundations of British masonry by questioning the implicit blessing which the church has bestowed on it since it started, and which gave it that aura of respectability and piety essential to the whole idea. "Ei, in Brute" is what Grand Lodge is feeling now.

The day of judgement itself will come a month when the General Synod decides whether to set its official seal on the caustic findings of the working group set up two years ago. There can be no shadow of doubt that formal condemnation of masonry by the church would be a devastating blow.

No matter how members may seem to shrug it off, as some Metropolitan policemen shrugged off their commission's disapproval of masonry issued in 1985, masonry cannot thrive without church assistance. Every lodge has to have its chaplain, and the vast majority of England's third of a million masons would call themselves Anglicans. They may well even have joined when membership of the local lodge seemed a natural extension of church membership. Dr Geoffrey Fisher, until 1961 the Archbishop of Canterbury, was himself a

mason, and so were numerous others in that generation of senior clergy.

The General Synod's working group uses words like "blasphemous" and "heretical" about some aspects of masonic practice and ritual, than which there are no stronger condemnations in the church's vocabulary. They see the Grand Lodge of England as an alternative church, teaching doctrines which Christians cannot accept. What is so astonishing about this judgement is that nothing has really changed since the days masonry was almost an extension of the church itself. Christian doctrine is the same; masonic ritual is the same. No one on the synod working party seems to realize the enormity of calling a former recent Primate of All England a blasphemer and heretic.

What has changed, of course, is the Church of England itself. There is a definite long-term drift in the church's self-understanding, away from the concept of a broad national church towards the idea of a denomination, a distinct sub-culture, with language and rules of its own, and with a jealous regard for the integrity of the faith it preaches. The logic of the new report on masonry is that it is no

longer every Englishman's right to belong to the national church if he so wishes: there is henceforth a test of doctrine to be passed.

And this trend is on all fours with similar developments, such as the continuing debate whether all babies brought to the vestry should be baptised, whether the church should renounce divorce, and whether the selection of bishops should involve the Prime Minister. There is still a strong assumption that the natural and ordinary way for an Englishman to be a Christian is by membership of the Church of England, but if the synod moves formally against masonry next month yet another heavy qualification will have been added to that right — "provided he is not a mason." And it is quite probable it will do so, for the church stands to lose very little. Few if any of this generation's senior church leaders are masons, and the tone of the last synod debate was far from sympathetic.

Nevertheless it is not all over, for the working group's report will be accepted as the last word only if it is not given close theological scrutiny. If the synod applies its analytical grey-matter to the issue there is some chance the findings of the report might be overturned.

For it is not, by Church of England standards, a very good report. It is tendentious, with an unhappy use of exclamation marks to add a mocking "believe it or not!" to various descriptions of masonic behaviour. And it is not rigorous — there is much more than it acknowledges to the questions raised by multi-faith religious services which pray to a common God without reference to Christ.

Finally, the report itself accepts that Grand Lodge is still rethinking some of the wording of its rituals, having already got rid of the ludicrous secrecy oaths. If masonry is not a religion, as it insists it is not, then variations to the wording of rituals to meet the church's theological objections should present no difficulties.

It is not as if these curious rituals were written in tablets of stone, whatever masonry pretends. All the evidence suggests they were devised by 17th century Englishmen who believed in the fashionable Deism of their time, and who liked to enact ancient-sounding ceremonies made up by themselves. The interesting question, avoided by the Anglican report, is why they did, and why they do still, play such ritual games. Could it be there is something in human nature which is missing from the Church of England's own ceremonies?

David Watts reports on the mass opposition to South Korea's generals

Firebomb path to Seoul's Olympic flame



government attention. The much larger Protestant church is equally active but probably less visible among the two million or more Christians.

The government has failed to realize how South Koreans have developed politically. They are not prepared to obey unquestioningly the government's order to behave until the 1988 Olympics are over when, it says, they might be allowed more say in who leads them.

South Korea's economy has far outpaced political change. The country has never had the opportunity to make the interim step from Confucianism to a modern form of functioning democracy. England had Magna Carta to curb the power of kings; Japan had its period of Taisho democracy to help ease it out of feudalism; and in China Marxist-Leninist thought put paid to Confucianism. But Korea moved from Confucian emperor to Japanese colony to the era of general presidents with only a brief period of democracy in between.

The quantum leap now required to satisfy public aspirations and the consequent telescoping of political development would severely strain any society even with more enlightened leaders than President Chun. He and his

advisers seem not to have grasped that with the explosion of technical learning in universities, which now teach more students per head of population than in Britain, has come an equally rapid growth in other fields.

The press may be controlled but schools and social institutions have not been so. The threat from North Korea has always been advanced as the main reason for the need to control political activity but the present younger generation, for whom the Korean War is only hearsay, is unconvinced. They may be allowed only limited travel abroad and the government may circumscribe what they read but the country's vibrant economy pulls in a vast amount of information: students can get any political tract they want from Marx to Thatcher.

Three elements have conspired to discredit the Chun regime and undermine its moral authority. The first was the torture and murder of the student Park Jong Chol, which the government first denied, then paid two police officers scapegoats to admit to and finally had to reveal was a much more widespread affair. Then there was the announcement in April that South Koreans must wait until after the Olympics for

revision of the constitution which would give them greater say in the election of the president. Finally came Chun's appointment as his successor of his fellow-general and partner in his seizure of power, Roh Tae Woo, who was closely associated with the infamous Kwangju massacre. Kim Dae Jung, the popular choice of many Koreans, has been under continuous house arrest for more than 70 days.

A new cabinet and a deft reshuffle of some senior military posts have since consolidated Chun's stance. He has said he is so determined to see through his political programme that he would rather be killed than yield.

Chun acts like a Yi dynasty monarch while the people increasingly favour a move to democracy. Quite what form this might take has not yet been defined but the works of a brilliant young professor whose books try to bridge the gap have become best sellers and influenced editorial writers on the country's leading daily newspaper.

For the government the great national task may be the holding of the Olympics next year, but for many South Koreans the immediate task is to start work on becoming a real democracy of which they can be proud when the world comes to call in 1988. The government's options in handling the riots are limited, since further rioting in response to severe measures against dissidents could threaten the Olympic Games.

Students have always been the catalysts of political change in recent South Korean history and they have never ceased questioning the legitimacy of the Chun government. Only eight years ago their protests provoked such dissension in the ruling group that President Park Chung Hee was assassinated by the then director of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency.

Soon afterwards President Chun took power from a civilian interim president in a bloody coup involving troops withdrawn from frontline positions on the border with the North. The revolt in the city of Kwangju against the re-imposition of military rule, which was brutally suppressed, has remained a stigma not only on the present regime but on the US military and government for its failure to advise against it.

All these things ordinary Koreans knew and were either unable to change or were unwilling to tolerate so long as they became wealthier and as long as they had President Chun's commitment that he would leave office early next year. Now they know that his successor, from an almost identical military background, will bring more of the same. The use of vast numbers of police has been required to prevent even more serious unrest. Only a significant government concession can ensure that real stability returns.

Making Britain's skies even safer

For many years everyone involved in air transport has taken the freedom of Britain's skies for granted. We are used to congested motorways, not to overcrowded skies. But now, like the United States and some other European countries, our air-traffic control system find that on some busy days it is reaching saturation point. That is not the fault of the controllers, who are having to work harder than ever, or of the equipment, which is constantly updated. The problem is simply that too many aircraft are being scheduled to fly at the same times, and on the same routes.

It is well known that traffic on the north Atlantic route slumped last year because of fears arising from Chernobyl and the Libyan affair, which is not so widely known is that the increase on British domestic and European routes last summer more than compensated for this drop. Movements handled last year by the London Air Traffic Control Centre, looking after flights over England and Wales, increased by more than 6 per cent to almost one million.

This summer, with American confidence restored, an even greater increase was expected. But the 20 to 25 per cent jump in peak

periods that has materialized in some areas exceeded anything the airlines had forecast.

The Civil Aviation Authority is, however, prepared. Some months ago, on the basis of the information then available, we told the airlines that for the first time in this country we would have to follow the example of the United States and some other European countries and introduce "flow control" on a systematic basis. This means that whenever traffic threatens to peak beyond the point that we feel controllers can safely handle we can temporarily restrict the number of aircraft entering British airspace and taking off from British airports in order to spread the load more evenly throughout the day.

Inevitably these restrictions will cause some delays to the busy periods — delays that will vary but which we shall try to keep to a minimum. That is bad news for passengers and airlines, and we regret it. But I am sure that everyone who flies would rather put up with this inconvenience than accept an erosion in safety standards.

The safety of air-traffic control is normally measured by the incidence of serious air accidents, by

which I mean those judged to have involved a real risk of collision. This judgement is not made by the CAA but by a body representing all sections of the aviation community. According to their analysis the number of public transport aircraft in British airspace involved in risk-bearing air accidents fell from 45 in 1977 to 16 in 1983, despite greater traffic, and the figures seem to be published for 1986 show that the rate of air accidents in relation to traffic volume continued to fall.

As part of its campaign to maintain this improvement the CAA has been spending some £125 million over the past five years on re-equipping the system, including new radar, new navigational aids and new landing systems. Over the next five years we plan to spend more than £200 million. Equipment will include a new computer for our London Air Traffic Control Centre, which preliminary studies are already under way. This is being tackled as a matter of urgency.

The scale of London air traffic by European standards is not widely appreciated. In 1986 Heathrow handled 293,900 public air transport movements and

Gatwick 157,700. The comparable figures for Frankfurt were 235,000, for Amsterdam 158,600 and for Paris Charles de Gaulle 144,900. Consequently, systems that are suitable elsewhere are not necessarily appropriate here.

Nevertheless, we are looking at new ideas from the airlines and our opposite numbers overseas, re-examining some of our own methods, redefining our controllers so that our human resources are concentrated where they are most needed, and we are spending money. We are determined to do all we can to keep Britain number one in Europe.

But we must also ask for patience. There is no panacea, no computer or other item of equipment that will break through the bottlenecks to clear the congestion. It will take time before new concepts, new equipment and, where necessary, more controllers can enable the system to perform once again without undue restriction. Meanwhile there can be no compromise on safety.

Christopher Tugendhat

The author is chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority.

Robert Kilroy-Silk

Have a go, but have a care

"Learn self-defence" Judge Argyle counselled blackmail victim Simon Bowden-Tebbutt. It sounds good advice, especially in view of the big increase in violent crime and inability of the police to combat it. But it's not as simple as the judge suggests. Learning the skills is easy enough: many local authorities now run self-defence courses — an indication, incidentally, of how dangerous society is seen to have become. But problems arise when the techniques are put into operation. Though we tend to have a romantic image of the innocent and vulnerable victim who manages to turn the tables on a violent assailant, that is not always the way it is viewed by the courts.

The law is clear: an individual may use such force in defending himself and others as is reasonable in the circumstances. That seems fair enough. The difficulty is that juries come to very different conclusions as to what constitutes reasonable force. What one jury will consider a brave and necessary act of self-defence will strike another as the use of excessive force warranting a prison sentence. And there's no knowing which way they will jump.

Consider the recent trial in New York of Bernard Goetz, the so-called "subway vigilante", who shot four youths whom he believed were about to assault and rob him. To some, he is a hero, a model to applaud and emulate. To others, he represents the evil that inevitably accompanies anyone taking the law into their own hands. The several days of deliberation before pronouncing him not guilty of attempted murder is an indication of the jury's division.

There have been similar cases in Britain. The most recent was that of Kenneth Noyes who killed an undercover policeman in the dark in his garage; he was acquitted of murder after saying he acted in panic, believing the man to be an intruder bent on robbery. Similarly, Anthony Ball was acquitted of wounding after firing a shotgun at a brick-throwing mob outside his home in Walsall who had ignored his warnings to disperse. After the case, six prosecution witnesses were bound over to keep the peace.

Neither Robert Foster, who shot armed robbers when they broke into his home, nor John O'Connell, who attacked three youths with a length of piping when they raided his shop, were convicted of any crime.

Others were not so fortunate. Theresa McCandles, for example, was recently given a four-year sentence for fatally stabbing a man

she said was about to rape her. Writing in the *Law Society Gazette*, barrister Gavin McFarland cited several cases of people who began as victims under attack and ended up in the dock. One was a man of 50 who chased and caught a burglar. The burglar was fined £30; his intended victim, who had forced him to the ground and immobilized him with kicks and punches, was convicted of unlawful wounding and given a suspended six-month prison sentence.

Another was a 17-year-old sentenced to five years' youth custody for the manslaughter of a boy who had persistently bullied and extorted money from him for 18 months and who, on the occasion he was stabbed, was threatening to dish out yet another beating.

These cases suggest that caution needs to be employed in carrying out Judge Argyle's advice. They illustrate the extremely fine line dividing what is lawful from that which will be termed criminal. There is certainly, as some commentators have suggested, a "grey area of uncertainty in the law" that desperately needs to be illuminated and which the judge ought to have acknowledged before he gave encouragement to the "have-a-go" crowd.

Clarification of the law has become more urgent with the increase in crimes against the person coupled with the growing unwillingness of the police to deal with certain offences, including housebreaking and car theft. In addition, the police have a generally poor clear-up rate and offenders, when caught, tend to be given a light sentence. These factors, combined, mean that more otherwise law-abiding people will be put in the position of having to defend themselves and their property and, in so doing, run the risk of landing up in court. Indeed, one of the most worrying features of the last few years has been the huge growth of self-help law and order groups, whether they be the officially sanctioned neighbourhood watch schemes, local vigilante groups or private security firms.

All increase the risk of ordinary citizens coming into conflict with criminals and the law. Whether the law ought to be changed to tip it a little more in favour of the victim is debatable. What is not at issue is the need to ensure that it is clear and fair. Only then can we have confidence that, having taken the judge's advice to learn self-defence, we can use it without running the risk of appearing before him as the offender.

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The author was a Labour MP, 1974-86.

Michael Kinsley

Did you hear the one about...

Washington President Reagan told a good joke at the Venice summit. He was preparing for his weekly Saturday radio broadcast to the nation and, as has happened before, he thought the microphone was off. It seems a goodie for Reagan to sing "O Sole Mio" and the Lord wondered what would happen if he lost 25 per cent of his brainpower. Result: he sang "O sole, O sole." The Lord then took away half his brains and he sang "O so, O so." Finally, the Lord took away all his brains and he sang "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling."

To my amazement (and I confess, delight) there has been refreshingly little fuss over what could easily — if George Bush had said it in New Hampshire, for example — have been treated as a major political gaffe. "See, I can tell that, being Irish," Reagan said. In fact, the lack of reaction had less to do with Reagan being Irish than with Reagan being Reagan. He has dropped so many bricks over the past seven years that people have become numb.

Still, if Reagan's bizarre immunity can help to anaesthetize the hair-trigger sensitivities of many American ethnic groups and add a few more opportunities for laughter to the world, he will have performed a legitimate public service. In America, we have a special need to minimize ethnic friction and resentment. But a world of universal and constant respect for these ideals might be hard to live in, and in any event is not on the horizon. What we need are some guidelines aimed at providing maximum gaiety with minimum offence. Here are a few suggestions.

Rule 1. As Reagan noted, it's better to tell jokes about your own ethnic group. Have you heard the one about the new film called *Jews*? It's the story of a small resort town terrorized by a loan shark. Of course Reagan doesn't really believe that the Irish are inordinately stupid and I don't really believe that Jews are inordinately avaricious. But an ethnic joke told against one's own group becomes a way of laughing at the stereotype, thereby undermining it, rather than promoting it. Rule 2. If the joke is about some other ethnic group, a good test is whether you would tell it to a friend from that group. If you would be embarrassed to do so, perhaps you should not tell it elsewhere. If you don't even have a friend from that particular group, that's an even better signal to keep quiet. Rule 3. Jokes about some groups are less offensive than jokes about

others. This is a valid double standard. Black Americans are still everyday victims of oppression and discrimination based on ethnic stereotypes; Italian, Irish, and Jewish Americans far less so (in England, Irish jokes have an edge they don't have here); WASPs — white Anglo-Saxon Protestants — not at all.

Unfortunately, most Wasp jokes just aren't very funny. They have a sense of strain, almost a sense of duty about them, not a sense of natural vicious inspiration. This illustrates the unavoidable truth that a good ethnic joke must contain an element of gloating superiority. A well-meaning naïf once suggested we should invent an all-purpose imaginary group to be the butt of all ethnic humour. It wouldn't work. Rule 4. Jokes about certain alleged traits are more offensive than jokes about others. This has nothing to do with the validity of the stereotype involved. For example, it is not true that certain ethnic groups inherently smell bad and/or attract insects, and jokes based on this premise are pointless and disgusting. On the other hand, a whole genre of jokes based on the equally false premise that all Jewish women are frigid (the reverse of the traditional stereotype). In that case, the absurdity of the premise turns it into a harmless convention.

Jokes about drunkenness, laziness or greed are more tolerable than about physical characteristics. In an area all its own is stupidity since it implies genuine and immutable inferiority; yet it is the basis of probably half of all ethnic jokes, including some good ones. One comfort here is that the literature lacks any clear consensus about which groups are ostensibly stupider than others. Rule 5. If you tell an ethnic joke, make sure it's funny. America has recently been subjected to a wave of papery, tasteless jokes with chapters on race, sex, and so on. A similar lull in radio stations in the big cities. Unfortunately, most of the jokes are pointless or only for its own sake — but as a test, if you tell an ethnic joke, make sure it's funny. America has recently been subjected to a wave of papery, tasteless jokes with chapters on race, sex, and so on. A similar lull in radio stations in the big cities. 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ENTERPRISE FOR SCOTLAND

The scale of both the Tory débâcle in Scotland, and Labour's victory there, is being exaggerated. In terms of votes, Labour with 42.4 per cent remains a minority party north of the border. It had not achieved so good a result since 1974, but the result was inferior to what it had achieved in several general elections before that. For many years, Scotland has been a Labour stronghold, and few Tories believed that the result this year would be very different from what it proved to be. In principle, therefore, there is no need for Tory hysteria.

Equally, the result presents no immediate practical or constitutional difficulties. The Scottish Grand Committee, which scrutinizes legislation about Scotland and sometimes takes the second reading of a Scottish Bill, will, of course, have a built in opposition majority; but that matters very little. The Scottish Select Committee, which exists to monitor the activities of the Secretary of State for Scotland and his department, can always be given a Tory majority by the simple and perfectly legitimate expedient of adding MPs from other parts of the Kingdom to its membership. In these respects, Scotland has not been made ungovernable.

Yet the stark fact remains that the Tories have lost 11 of their 21 seats there. About 267,000 more Scots voted Labour last week than in 1983. This is a challenge to Mrs Thatcher, and one to which she should not and will not hesitate to respond; but what, precisely, can she do?

The conventional cry is that there are three matters which have alienated Scotland from the Tories — the so-called poll tax, which attempts to deal with the intractable question of rates, the extent of Government expenditure on social services and industrial revival in Scotland and the Tory opposition to devolution, a policy supported by all their opponents in the place.

A statute for reforming the rating system is already on the book, though it does not come into operation until 1989. It is inconceivable that Mr Rifkind should respond to this poor election result by simply rescinding it. Apart from the loss of *amour propre* to the Government that this would imply, the fact is that the whole question of rates — an outmoded and inefficient method of raising local finance — has to be tackled, no one yet knows how the new system will work, either in Scotland or south of the border. This is a

controversy which Mr Rifkind must simply sit out.

On public expenditure in Scotland, the stark truth remains that the Scots get much more than any other part of the Kingdom, nor is it so easy to maintain, as for a while it was, that they earn this by virtue of their off-shore oil reserves. Any attempt to court favour in Scotland by still further increasing the disparity between public expenditure there and elsewhere, and by abandoning Mrs Thatcher's view that prosperity cannot be simply bought by largesse from the Treasury, would go down very badly to other parts of Great Britain.

Devolution is the kernel of the matter. The election provides no really conclusive evidence that the support in Scotland for devolution is any greater than it was in March 1979. That was when a referendum was held on the Labour Government's proposal for a Scottish assembly. There was a bare majority in favour among those who voted. But the support of at least 40 per cent of the electorate — not just of those who voted — was required before devolution could become law, and this the referendum failed to produce. There is no evidence that the difficulty of bringing about devolution now would be any less than it proved to be then.

No doors should be shut. But for the time being the Government would be wise not to pay much attention to unrepresentative demands for an assembly. Instead, it should concentrate on making Scotland more prosperous. The issue is not just one of economics. It never is when national feeling is involved. But more Scottish prosperity would help — as well as being something intrinsically good for the Scots.

Scotland has not in the past been a poor country — although its has had its poor areas, and poor times, just like any other. It was once a centre of engineering. Today it has "silicon glens" comparable in sophistication, if not in size, with the silicon valleys of the South. Its educational system has long been considered to be better than England's, and with some justification. In short, it has a future.

The election results suggest that the Government's encouragement of enterprise brought prosperity back to the Midlands. It even did so in parts of the North, since several Lancashire seats, which were expected to go to Labour, did not. A chance should be given for those policies to work in Scotland, before there is any recourse to the false hopes held out by devolution.

A SPORTING CHANCE

Yesterday's news that the Priest Hill sports centre is to be brought into use, after falling into disrepair for the last five years, must be welcome to those who live without as well as within the centre's catchment area in Ewell, Surrey. Mr Colin Moynihan, the new Sports Minister, must be congratulated on prompt action following disclosure of the scandal in *The Times* this week.

But this cannot disguise the story of bureaucratic ineptitude which Priest Hill represents. Sold by the Inner London Education Authority to the Greater London Council, from whom it was inherited by the London Residuary Body on the GLC's demise, it has been allowed to waste away, because nobody had the will to resurrect it.

As a result, 30 hard tennis courts, 18 football pitches, nine rugby grounds, eight hockey fields, nine cricket squares, three pavilions and two houses, have been allowed to rot away. Squatters moved into the houses, fungus took over the tennis courts and rain has penetrated at least one of the pavilions.

There is evidence to suggest that many of those responsible were only too well aware of what was happening — or rather, not happening to the site. Moreover, its decline has continued, despite rising concern over the shortage of sports facilities in Britain.

ILEA disposed of the centre after deciding that the bussing of schoolchildren to it (five miles from the nearest ILEA school) was expensive and counter-productive. How far the authority's decision was influenced by the crankily-ideological suspicion of competitive sport, which has pervaded Labour-controlled educational bodies in recent years, is far from clear. But few observers of ILEA's ideologies would put it past them. One must question

whether the authority would have disposed of the centre so readily, in a different age and circumstances.

As capital cities go, London is not badly served with open spaces. But the facilities are not so good that one can afford to let centres like Priest Hill, lie idle and deteriorate.

The oddity is that its decline has coincided with a growing demand that school and college facilities should be opened to dual use — with local clubs and societies making use of them in the evenings or the holidays. The runner Sebastian Coe, vice-chairman of the Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR), is among those who have appealed for use of such centres to be maximised. So little effort would seem to have been needed to unlock the gates and ensure that Priest Hill could be used, if not by the schools for whom it was originally intended, then by the local people in the suburbs.

The cost of restoring Priest Hill and making it fit for play, has yet to be fully assessed. But 20 of the tennis courts need resurfacing at an estimated £10,000 a time and none of them now comes up to the international standards for which they were originally designed. Yet had they only been regularly used, they might have withstood more efficiently the rages of weather and time.

Meanwhile, there are grounds for concern over how typical Priest Hill is. The CCPR claims to have details of 5000 acres of land — registered as being for recreational use but now lying derelict.

The conclusion to be drawn is that an inquiry, of the kind now being launched by the Sports Council, is needed. But it must be a matter for regret that it has taken so long to begin one.

FOURTH LEADER

Opponents of Britain's nuclear weapons some time ago formed a sub-section of their organization, called "Cruise-watch", which, as its name indicates, is dedicated to following the missiles when they emerge from their bases on manoeuvres and trying to disrupt their progress.

Provided the demonstrators keep within the law, no democrat can object to that. But a recent jubilant announcement from Cruise-watch headquarters (if "headquarters" isn't in any case too military a term) will surely baffle unilateralist and multilateralist readers alike. The communiqué claimed that the cruise-watchers had stopped a convoy of the horrendous missiles "by throwing giant woolly sausages into the road".

Reason lotters on her throne; what on earth is going on at Thruxton, Hampshire (the venue of this astonishing coup)? From both sides of the encounter an explanation is surely required: let us start with the military.

There is no need to go into detail about the nature and fire-power of cruise missiles; a sight of their awe-inspiring shape, crammed with unimaginable explosive force, would be enough to deter even the most ruthless aggressor — that, indeed, is their purpose. But aggressive — that, indeed, is their purpose. But what if the ruthless aggressor had read the report? What kind of weapon can it be that is neutralized by being pelted with giant woolly sausages? What can they be made of — sausages? New Year's Eve streamers, whistles and funny hats?

It has often, and rightly, been said that

whatever may be the custom in other, lesser, lands, in Britain we do not roll over demonstrators with tanks. Good; but does this forbearance now extend to giant woolly sausages, too? If so, where will it end?

But the behaviour of the cruise-watchers also raises questions that need answering. Picture the scene when the committee is planning its next move; ideas are being briskly exchanged, and a consensus is beginning to emerge, when one member, until then silent, pipes up and says: "I know — let's get some giant woolly sausages and throw them over the road where the convoy appears." Surely there would be an exceptionally long and embarrassed pause?

Moreover, the sausages were woolly, which rules out the possibility — remote enough anyway — that they were coated with some slippery substance that made it impossible for the cruise vehicle's wheels or tracks to get a purchase. After all, not even the most dedicated nuclear disarmament would make a giant woolly sausage and then smear it with olive oil. For that matter, not even the most short-sighted weapon designer would fail to take into account the fact that in battle conditions there might be all sorts of slippery substances on the road, sausages or no sausages.

Until somebody explains — and it had better be a pretty good explanation — it will be a waste of time for anyone to try to work the thing out logically. Meanwhile, if it has done nothing else, the story has given two new meanings to that homely and familiar object, the British banger.

Loopholes in the whaling rules

From Sir Peter Scott
Sir, Next week the International Whaling Commission (IWC) will hold its annual meeting, which this year takes place in Bournemouth.

In theory, the IWC is concerned with the "regulation of whaling" which, for the majority of its members, has come to imply the conservation of the world's whale stocks. This concern with conservation led to the IWC's decision for an indefinite moratorium on commercial whaling which came into effect last year.

However, in practice, a small number of countries (Norway, Japan, Iceland and South Korea) are continuing to kill many hundreds of whales each year by exploiting a loophole in the Whaling Convention which allows countries to authorise the killing of whales "for scientific purposes".

The members of the IWC, with the UK and the USA playing a full part, will do their best next week to close this loophole, but the political and financial vested in-

terests behind the whaling industry are very powerful.

The Icelandic whalers have just set out for a further season of so-called "scientific whaling". They plan to kill 120 fin and sei whales and to sell 49 per cent of the meat to Japan, which is a travesty of the concept of a catch for "scientific purposes".

Sixteen years ago, after two summers studying the breeding Pink-footed Goose in Iceland, the Government of Iceland conferred on me the Order of the Falcon for my work on conservation. It was a great honour, and one rarely awarded to a foreigner.

Sadly I now feel that I have no alternative but to return the Order of which I was once so proud, to show how much I deplore Iceland's flagrant abuse of the regulations of the International Whaling Commission. Yours faithfully, PETER SCOTT, The New Grounds, Slindrig, Gloucester, June 16.

Alliance tensions

From Lord Cork & Orrery
Sir, Mr Reginald Watts (June 16) states that "even the most politically illiterate voter understands that the Liberal Party and the SDP are different and that no amount of superficial packaging can turn them into a coherent party", and also that having two leaders "reinforced the fact that there were two parties". Thus he correctly identifies the Alliance's two-edged hara-kiri sword.

But the sword has yet a third edge, perhaps even more deadly than the other two, and it is called a hung Parliament. Whether intentionally or not, the Alliance gave the impression that their hopes were bounded by a Parliament in which they should be able to hold a balance between Conservative and Labour, not by voting this way or that as occasion or principle might require but by prior bargain with one or other of the parties.

In other words, they hoped — or so it seemed to many, justly or unjustly — to win enough seats to be able to sell their support to the higher bidder, without regard to anything but their own political advantage; continuing to this notion even after both the main parties had publicly refused to have anything to do with it.

There may be somewhere a

nation whose electorate would fall for such a proposition, but I doubt it. Your obedient servant, CORK & ORRERY, House of Lords.

From Mr Matthew Huntbach
Sir, Mr Reginald Watts could not be more wrong. The most successful constitution the world has yet seen, that of the Roman republic, had two leaders built into it. Many other constitutions have similarly recognised the danger of tyranny that comes from placing absolute power into the hands of one leader.

With our traditions of inflated parliamentary majority, obedience to party whips and an impotent second chamber, a dual leadership has positive advantages. It is a government which lacks checks against hastily put together legislation really stronger than one where policies must satisfy two independent sources of authority?

The mistake the Alliance made was to attempt to conform to the old pattern of party politics which has failed this country so badly. By over-criticising other parties for their lack of unity, the Alliance was unable to make its own diversity a positive campaign point. Yours faithfully, MATTHEW HUNTBACK, 28 Watts Point, Brooks Road, E13.

National lottery

From the Chairman of the National Council on Gambling
Sir, Mr Cribb (June 13) is betting on a race that has already been run. This country has a national lottery in the form of football pools, where the annual stake money is some £500million and the winnings about £140million. There are also premium bonds which accumulated about £1.3 billion over 30 years and paid out £135million in prize money in 1985/86.

It would therefore be unrealistic to expect a State lottery to draw in large additional sums, and obviously most undesirable if there were intensive national publicity to persuade citizens to spend more money on gambling. This is particularly so in view of the large number of outlets for gambling that already exist in Britain.

Those who advocate a national lottery board to distribute the proceeds of a national lottery for good causes should also think of the difficulty this body would face in deciding on the allocation of the money in such a way as to satisfy Parliament and the public.

Existing legislation allows various societies to promote limited

lotteries for charitable, sporting and cultural purposes. It is another matter to propose that major national projects should be funded by the proceeds of a national lottery — which could, in practice, damage the existing society lotteries.

Yours faithfully, E. MORAN, Chairman, The National Council on Gambling, 26 Bedford Square, WC1, June 16.

From Mr J. W. K. Tarling
Sir, I venture to say that there is no theological justification for religious bodies to seek funds by means of raffles — a form of gambling. The churches with which I am associated eschew lotteries and always succeed in meeting financial needs through the work and generosity of their congregations.

Unhappily, many churches in the UK rely upon gambling methods to meet their needs, and I very much hope that the Methodist Conference will refuse to depart from its long-held policy of avoiding such methods of fund-raising. Yours truly, J. W. K. TARTLING, 86 Kensington Park Road, W11, June 15.

Nelson's eyeshade

From Mr Richard Walker
Sir, Simon Tait's admirable article in *Spectrum* (June 12, early edition) on the Westminster Abbey effigy could be amplified on one small point. Nelson's famous eyeshade, say the restorers, might be "a home-made job, we think by a lady".

In January, 1801, shortly before Copenhagen, Nelson told Lady Hamilton that his painful left eye could be eased by a green eyeshade — "will you, my dear friend, make me one or two? Nobody else shall".

Emma may indeed have made them. But some years ago, when the effigy was available to the public view, it was accompanied by the latter's account book of Messrs Lock & Co of St James's

Street, showing several bills for Nelson's hats with green eyeshades between 1800 and 1805, the last entry, "10 September 1805 Cocked Hat Green Shade £22.6", being followed by the final settlement before Trafalgar. "Paid Sept. 13 1805, £11.19.6".

As far as I know the only portrait showing The Hero actually wearing the green eyeshade is the posthumous one painted by A. W. Devis during the last voyage up-channel to the Thames estuary and the funeral procession to St Paul's. Devis had the benefit of a great deal of first-hand advice from the ship's company as to exactly at what angle the eyeshade was worn.

Yours faithfully, RICHARD WALKER, 31 Cadogan Place, SW1, June 12.

The Ward trial

From Mr Patten E. Bridge
Sir, Lord Denning's skill as an advocate (letter, June 3) should not be allowed to disguise the fact that the tragic series of events leading to the death of Stephen Ward reflects ill on our system of criminal justice and on some of the people who operated it in 1963.

Lord Denning may indeed be familiar with the evidence. There is little or no dispute about the facts. It may be that "totally bogus" is not the most judicious description of that long list of strange charges which we read in your columns. However, those charges were almost all dropped by the prosecution. I do not believe it was out of kindness of heart.

It is difficult for us outside the judiciary to comment on the summing up. According to Ludovic Kennedy, he was unable

to obtain a copy when preparing his book because the Lord Chief Justice refused to authorise its release. As far as I know it has not been released since.

The abbreviated version published in your newspaper makes no attempt to explain why a prostitute's doctor, lawyer and grocer are not guilty of living on her immoral earnings while apparently her landlord is. It was this strange conclusion which led to Ward's sentence and death.

Yours faithfully, P. E. BRIDGE, Brooklands & Bridge, 3 Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn, WC1, June 9.

From Mr Phillip Knightley and Ms Caroline Kennedy

Sir, Sir Philip de Zulueta is correct in what he writes (June 4). He was considering renting a cottage on the Clivedon estate, but we were wrong in saying to our book, *An*

On wrong side of the 'great divide'

From Mr W. Wilson
Sir, I would like to let the people in the South know how bad it is in the North under the rule of Mrs Thatcher. I don't know if any of the other parties would have done any better, but they certainly could not have done any worse.

Do the people in the South have to go to Oxfam shops to buy clothes for themselves and their children? Or fight like cats in the open-air market to get a bargain, or pay 30p for a second-hand coat for their child to go to school in?

I was down in the South a few months ago, to see if I could get any work. There was work but nowhere to live. While I was there, I was looking in the shops, thinking to myself how nice it would be to be able to buy something new for our daughter.

I went to a large store to look round and saw an old lady pay about £5,000 for a new suite. I could buy my council house for that. The last suite I got cost me £60 second-hand — that was about four years ago. I could get one on the never-never but I would never be able to keep the payments up.

I am just one case out of thousands in the North, some worse off than myself. If things carry on like they have been, it will be like it was during the war, when the Americans were sending parcels to us. Only this time it will be the people of the South sending them to the people of the North.

Yours etc, W. WILSON, 98 Kyle Crescent, Parson Cross, Sheffield, South Yorkshire.

Salary differentials

From Mr Christopher Robson
Sir, Once again the Confederation of British Industry is vainly trying to tackle the problem of poor management training which exists in industry today. The Handy report, *The Making of Managers*, published recently by the National Economic Development Office, highlighted the familiar home truths that most managers in the United States, West Germany, France and Japan are more highly educated than their colleagues in the United Kingdom.

The CBI will fail to reverse this imbalance unless it publicly recognises the need for the leading British industrial companies to recruit university graduates by paying wages equivalent to those presently obtained in the City.

Opening salaries for graduates in industry are at least 30 per cent below those for graduates entering the City, and the salary difference widens very rapidly over the next few years.

Any graduate entering industry must expect two or three years of monotonous and unimaginative training before his work becomes truly challenging, unlike the City.

Company cars

From Sir Ian Morrow
Sir, The first year of a new government is the time to make radical and unpopular decisions.

Most executives who have the unenviable task of deciding who shall get company cars and in what price range believe that this process wastes valuable managerial time, reduces motivation and causes dissension between those who have cars and those who don't.

The Chancellor could eliminate this nightmare by taxing the company car out of existence and dropping the top rate of tax to 50 per cent. Such a step would take a load off the Inland Revenue and increase the tax take. Yours faithfully, IAN MORROW, 2 Albert Terrace Mews, NW1, June 15.

Out of the dark

From Mr Harry Guest
Sir, Peter Nichols ("A way out of the dark", June 13) is right to attack those uncreative journalists who are paid too much for criticising their betters. It is nevertheless a fact that almost any West End play — however clumsy or unfashionable — gets a review. Poets, novelists, painters, sculptors and composers cannot guarantee that their work will be brought to public attention in the Press.

Yours etc, HARRY GUEST, 1 Alexandra Terrace, Exeter, Devon.

From Mr Paul Gane
Sir, It may well be that the word "fortune" is inappropriate to the present state of the West End theatre in general, but it is particularly appropriate to the Fortune Theatre. Yet in the caption to the photograph of that theatre with which you chose to illustrate Peter Nichols's article, you suggested that the building might better serve as an office block.

Such a comment shows total insensitivity to the fragile vicissitudes of the creative arts. On the very day the article was published, we were celebrating 100 performances of the current production, *Nonsense*, which is enjoying a most successful run. Yours faithfully, PAUL GANE, Theatre Director, Fortune Theatre, Covent Garden, WC2, June 14.

Affair of State, that he actually did so. Nor did we wish to imply that Mr Macmillan met Ward in Sir Philip's company. We apologise to Sir Philip and will remove the error in future printings of the book.

Yours faithfully, PHILLIP KNIGHTLEY, CAROLINE KENNEDY, c/o Jonathan Cape Ltd, 23 Bedford Square, WC1, June 17.

Gaps along the line

From Mr Michael Stokes
Sir, Mr Shaw (June 8) may do better to travel by the Circle Line. As passengers on this recently, it was put to us quite openly that we might "experience an extended journey time". Yours faithfully, MICHAEL STOKES, Willow Cottage, Smarden Road, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent.

ON THIS DAY

JUNE 20 1859

The writer of the letter from which this sketch of Garibaldi at Como is taken was holidaying on the Continent. He was not in Italy when Garibaldi was there, but he was deterred by the threat of hostilities from his original plan of reaching Italy from Switzerland.

A VISIT TO GARIBOLDI'S HEADQUARTERS.

... [Garibaldi] proved as different from what we expected as was the state of the town from that reported. From his portraits and warlike exploits I had pictured to myself a very tall large man, of yellow complexion, with long black hair and beard, with something of the romantic air of those Spanish guerrilla chiefs, who sang their own songs to the guitar or killed people with equal gusto. Just the reverse. I could scarcely believe that the quiet, unaffected, gentlemanly man who entered and sat down with us was Garibaldi. He is of middle height, not more than 5 feet 7 or 8 inches. I should think a square-shouldered, deep chested, powerful man, without being at all heavy. He has a healthy English complexion, with brown hair and beard, rather light, both slightly touched with gray, and cut very short. His head shows a very fine development, mental as well as moral, and his face is good, though not remarkable to a casual observer — nothing to show the man who could form and carry out such plans as the retreat from Rome or the capture of Como, but when he spoke of the oppression and sufferings of his country, the lip and eye told the deep feeling long suppressed, and the steadfast daring character of the man. A child would stop him in the street to ask him what o'clock it was, but the man condemned to be shot in half-an-hour would never, after a look of that calm determined face, waste time in asking mercy upon earth... it was only when he spoke of the generous sympathy of the people of England with the sufferings of Italy that his Saxon-like calmness gave away [sic]; then, as he assured us again and again, how thoroughly it was appreciated by Italians of every class, and how grateful they were for it, he showed that the warm blood of Italy burned in his veins. My impression had been that his operations were more the result of rash impulse than military calculation; but it was palpable that, strong as may be his impulses, they are thoroughly under control. Bold and enterprising even to apparent recklessness he is no doubt, but he is also cool and calculating; and as I watched him on the opposite side of the table, telling the ladies of his voyages to China and the antipodes as pleasantly and calmly as if in a London drawing-room, while at any moment he might be interrupted by the fire of an overpowering Austrian force brought by railway to his outpost, I felt no doubt that in case of the very worst he had arranged exactly what to do, and would do it...

As soon as he left us General Garibaldi mounted and rode off with two aides-de-camp and two Sardinian light cavalry, of whom he has 200, amid loud vivas from his men, who seemed to regard him with the greatest respect and devotion. The townspeople I observed to be extremely cautious. Our first inquiries regarded the expulsion of the Austrians, which had occurred just the day before. They appeared unaccountable. The Austrians have an industriously called Garibaldi and his men brigands, that, for consistency's sake, they will hang and shoot them like dogs if taken prisoners. The perfect confidence of the people and the absence of any report of the smallest outrage confirm the opinions I formed from their appearance and behaviour, that instead of being guerrillas, like some of the Spanish bands — as much robbers as soldiers — they are respectable citizens fighting for their country, carrying into war the same respect for life and property which they showed in peace...

June 20-26, 1987

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE
ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Heart of our summer

It may still be a symbol of summertime, but the taste of a true British strawberry is becoming ever harder to find. Pearson Phillips looks at the war of the strawberry fields

For me, the summer arrived on the back of a lorry in South London last week. It was cold. It was raining. And it was at that grim suicidal hour just before dawn.

Out of the refrigerated truck which had backed into a bay in the New Covent Garden in Nine Elms, Battersea, came these little symbols of sunshine, parties and open frivolity. The first of the home-grown strawberry crop.

To the British this is more than just a fruit. It is a treat. We can despair of the summer climate, shiver at Ascot, shelter from the cloudbursts at Wimbledon, run for cover at garden parties throughout the land. But at least we know one thing. For a short time in July, there will be strawberries for tea.

Perhaps they are given to us as some kind of compensation for the lack of a good temperate climate. They suggest summer even if the sun is not shining. They are linked in every childhood memory with long, hot summer days, just as Christmas pudding goes with snow. The first berry we remember was probably a surreptitious gathering from under the net of the family vegetable plot, still warm from the sun and with the taste which you didn't have to be grown-up to appreciate. It is a taste which scientists inadequately describe as "a delicate balance between acidity and juiciness".

That memory of it came back at that cruel hour in New Covent Garden when a wholesaler pushed over a punnet and said "Try a bit of that." For £2 paid at the gate you can wander down avenues of peaches, plums, nectarines, cherries and "straws". There is a bustle of porters, buyers from the catering trade, Spanish lorry drivers with their loads of peaches and wholesalers at their high desks with pens and notebooks, who have risen from their beds at 2am.

Strange things have been happening to strawberries. Nowadays the outward and visible form of the fruit can be bought all the year round, but without any of its inward and spiritual meaning. There is something outrageous about

being tempted by a strawberry booth in some rain-lashed lay-by in February. It is like football intruding into the cricket season.

Now that Spain has entered the Common Market will British growers find themselves competing with southern Spain, where heat-loving Californian varieties go on producing fruit for months on end, regardless of day length, providing up to 50 tons an acre compared with our six to eight? This weekend, for instance, English strawberries were selling at from 65p to 95p a half-pound punnet, while imports were from 50p to 75p. So what is to be the fate of "our" strawberry? Is it about to be driven underground by slick, imported mass marketing techniques like the English apple?

Will the tide of reform which has been reshaping Wimbledon these recent years even reach down finally to the catering, so that we shall sit eating Euro-strawberries with Common Market cream?

On this point, at least, there is some reassurance. Michael Tierney, of the Allied-Lyons catering division, which is looking for 18 tons of strawberries for the tournament, said: "We are a British company and this is a British event, so one of the things I insist upon is British strawberries."

British strawberries? As I watched the first of the crop being unloaded, packed in clear plastic 250gms punnets which allowed the customer to see the berries underneath, I couldn't help feeling that they didn't much look like anything I was used to. They were huge fruit, dark red and wedge shaped, about eight to the punnet. They looked exotic and vaguely foreign, as did the names of the varieties stamped on the boxes. Hapil? Elsanita?

Where was Royal Sovereign, supposedly the king of good taste? Where were the Cambridge varieties, Cambridge Vigour or Cambridge Favourite, solid reli-

ably plants known to every gardener?

There has been a revolution in the strawberry world. In fact, two revolutions. Peter Brice, the third generation of the family who run Mockbeggar Farm near Rochester, Kent, probably the biggest private strawberry business in Britain, told me with some pride that he had "never tasted a Royal Sovereign in his life." And yet "Mockbeggars", as the wholesalers call them, are the favourite among market men looking for what they term "a good bold berry".

But these Grand Old British berries are now most likely to come from a plant originally bred in Holland or Belgium. A leading Essex grower, Ken Muir of Clacton, is largely responsible for the switch. He is an ex-Coldstream Guards man who for 30 years has run a meticulous nursery down a shrub-lined drive outside Clacton, selling plants and growing about 30 acres of strawberries. "Forget about Royal Sovereign," he told me. "It was living on its past reputation."

As for the Cambridge varieties, a mysterious killer dis-

ease popularly known as "the June yellows" (more properly called *verticillium* wilt) has been ravaging the beds. The leaves simply turn yellow and the plant folds up and dies. It seems that strawberries, like empires, rise and fall.

If the British strawberry growers had relied on the old favourites they would indeed be in a difficult position today, but people have been looking over the Channel to see what the Continental horticulturists have been up to. Among them was Ken Muir himself. He discovered two varieties which seemed to him to be better than anything being produced in Britain. One was Hapil from Belgium. The other was Elsanita from Holland.

There followed some very British, convivial evenings when some 60 members of the Royal Horticultural Society gathered at the Wisley headquarters to put strawberries to a blind tasting. The big, fat,

scarlet beauties from Belgium and Holland regularly trounced the opposition. Ken Muir then went through the bureaucracy involved in bringing in new stock for commercial use in Britain, which includes winning over a genial body known as the Strawberry Panel at the National Fruit Trials in Faversham, Kent.

G rowers are now planting Hapil and Elsanita all over Britain and the royalties are flowing. In the Dutch and Belgian institutes which produced them (in the strawberry industry breeds can be copyright).

What have the British breeding stations been doing all this time? Why have they apparently been outflanked by the foreigners? There are a number of theories. One is that government cuts are to

blame. There were three places in Britain at which strawberries were bred, the John Innes Institute, the West of Scotland College of Agriculture in Ayr and a department of Bristol University. They have all been forced to give up, leaving only the government research station at East Malling in Kent to take over new breeding.

Another theory is that the British have been more interested in looking for strains that resist disease than in going for taste. The foreign newcomers are certainly susceptible to strawberry ailments, like mildew, red spider mite and the dreaded wilt. But growers are prepared to live with that, taking precautions which include massive chemical warfare in return for the advantage of strawberries that taste like strawberries.

There is at least one British breeder who gets occasional royalty cheques through the post. He is Richard Cumberland, now semi-retired in Sussex, who produced an autumn fruiting variety called Aroncel when he ran a nursery in Dorset. The problem is that it is a little soft for commercial

purposes and doesn't travel well. "I am working on that," Cumberland says.

Other revolutions, too, are bearing fruit. The old practice was for the growers to send the fruit to the wholesale markets from where they were distributed to the shops, but that is falling out of favour. "It was never very satisfactory," says Ken Muir. "By the time they arrived at the shop counters they were bruised and battered, fit only for jam."

Growers now prefer to send the pick of their crop direct to the supermarkets, who have specialized in handling delicate perishable groceries. Ken Muir showed me his special plastic punnets, as specified by Marks & Spencer. They are wide and roomy, with a plastic lid to stop the berries being crushed. "Even the weight of one berry lying on another can do damage," he says. And the "cold chain" system is used by the supermarkets to make the strawberries last longer. "It is important to get rid of the field heat. It can make a difference of two or three days in shelf life." From the moment they are picked to the time they are put into a cold cabinet they are kept at just above freezing point.

There is even a special way of picking the fruit. "The stalk should be nipped between thumb and forefinger. The fruit itself should never be touched. And the stalk must remain in the fruit in order that it will not rot."

With the new taste-conscious varieties and the great pains now taken to get the fruit to the customer in good condition, Ken Muir and his colleagues believe they can fight off the imports from Southern Europe and elsewhere. "But only if we get together to tell the public about the superior taste of the home-grown product."

There have been scare stories this year about the effects of the rain and lack of sun. "Every year we have a scare about a possible shortage," says Michael Tierney. "I suspect it is all part of the process of fixing the price..."

So it seems that Wimbledon visitors need have no fears: our small symbol of summer is safe. The English strawberry is alive and well. Even though its parents may be foreigners.

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Illustrations by Peter Brookes

GRACE AND FLAVOUR

● The strawberries beloved by the Romans and medieval England were the small wild strawberries found in the woods. It was a sort of source of income for the poor to gather the berries for the street markets. The wild strawberry plants were also cultivated in aristocratic gardens. There is a famous passage in Shakespeare's *Richard III* in which the Duke of Gloucester persuades the Bishop of Ely to leave him alone by sending for some strawberries:

"My lord of Ely, when I was last in Holborn I saw good strawberries in your garden there. Do beseech you send for some of them."

● The first "modern" strawberry was produced by Michael Keen, a nurseryman from Isleworth, Middlesex, in the early 1800s. He worked with a curious white strawberry of little flavour which had been discovered in southern Chile by a Frenchman some hundred years earlier. Keen crossed this with a large species of wild strawberry which had been discovered in Virginia. The result, presented to the Horticultural Society as "Keen's Seedling", caused a sensation. A contemporary drawing shows fine, round red fruit. The flavour was said to equal the wild parent.

● Strawberries benefited from the great strides made in plant development by the Victorian nursery trade. One landmark was the repeal of the Sugar Tax in 1874, which ushered in the large-scale production of strawberries for jam. The main problem was that the fruit did not keep. Strawberry fields were laid down close to the city markets.

● Etymologists argue about the word "strawberry". It comes from the Old English 'strew', which means 'straw' - although why it should have been given this name is not clear. There may have been a confusion with 'strew', because the runners were strewn about the ground. It is nothing to do with putting straw down to keep the fruit clean, a modern practice.

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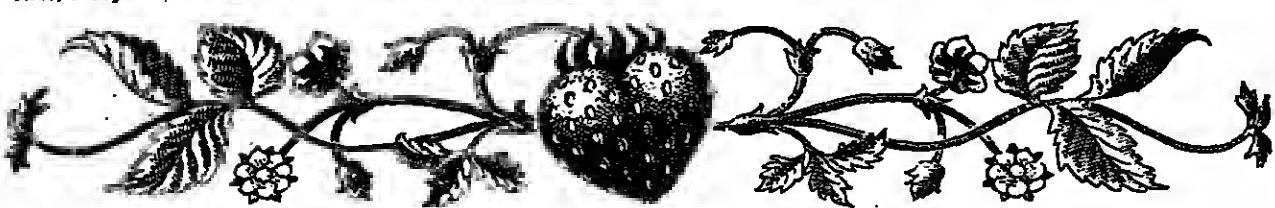
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TIMES



A toast to the best of berries

The simplest way of eating strawberries is possibly the best. For this you need your own strawberry bed. Pluck a berry by its stalk while it is still warm and place it in your mouth, dipping it in fine castor sugar on the way if you must. The bigger models respond well to being sliced and left for an hour with sugar sprinkled over them. Traditional English strawberries and cream run this a close second, particularly when eaten outside on a green English lawn in the sun. With luck we may see this combination once or twice in July.

Other nationalities have their foibles. The Turks scatter oats over them and sprinkle them with lemon juice and whipped cream flavoured with rose water. The Italians soak them in orange juice. Some eccentrics believe a sprinkling of pepper enhances the delight.

The French associate them with wine, and Raymond Blanc, who presides at Le Manoir aux Quat Saisons in Oxfordshire is no exception. For what he calls "an informal supper" he likes to serve strawberries in champagne. He makes a purée out of 300gm of strawberries and about 50gm of fine sugar. Leaving the purée in the fridge to cool he washes and hulls 200gm of small berries, sprinkles them with 30gm of sugar and leaves them to absorb the sugar for an hour. A drop of Grand Marnier can also be added to the berries.

Taking four wine goblets he divides the purée between them and arranges the

small strawberries on top. Finally into each glass go two or three tablespoons of champagne.

Raymond Blanc is worried about the English way with strawberry jam. The finished product should be colourful, he says, with plenty of whole berries in it, which means choosing small firm fruit

MAKING YOUR BED

Perhaps the best way of getting a tasty British strawberry is to grow it yourself. Ken Muir, a leading grower, believes the amateur gardener will benefit from the tactics of the professionals. He even thinks it worthwhile to put a rain gauge among the strawberry beds. Two to three inches of rain as the fruits form is ideal and nature seems to have provided that amount unaided this year. Otherwise, use a sprinkler, but beware - watering has to be done with care. Too much early in the year "encourages leafy growth and meagre fruit". But too little later on "gives you that dry cotton-woolly taste."

Muir says that the greatest amateur sin is to keep restocking the beds with runners from the original plants, or to take runners from friends and neighbours. "Most plants will crop well for around three years. After that they should be replaced with stock certified to be free of disease. Using home-produced runners from old stock is the way disease is spread."

which is fresh and without moisture. Any old fruit won't do.

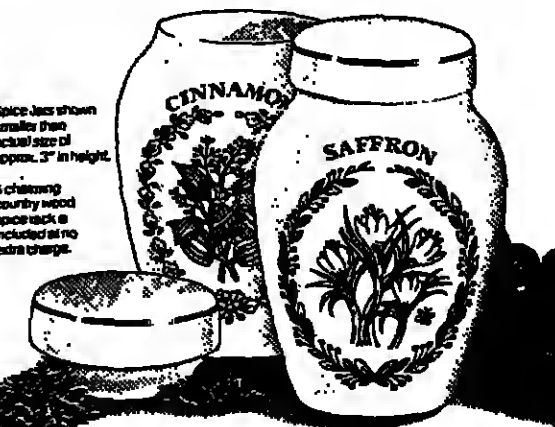
The Americans have a national addiction to strawberry shortcake. Jonathan Waxman serves it in Jams restaurant in London's Albemarle Street. He bakes two halves of a shortcake (which Americans tend to refer to as "a biscuit") and fills it with a strawberry compote, made by slicing and macerating the fruit in light brown sugar and adding some cooked rhubarb. He makes a purée out of some of the compote, which acts as a liquid base for the whole confection to stand in, like Alcatraz sitting in San Francisco Bay.

Though it borders on cruelty to fruit, some people make a habit of drowning strawberries in cocktails. A "Bloodhound" is made from one third gin, one third French vermouth and one third Italian vermouth, plus two or three strawberries. Shake everything together and strain. That should keep the summer cold out.

If it ever gets warm enough for cold soup, strawberry summer soup should get the guests confused. For fun, take one pound of strawberries, six fluid ounces white wine, three tablespoons of lemon juice, the grated rind of half a lemon and two ounces of sugar. Give all the ingredients a whirl in the blender and serve.

If you can float a small strawberry leaf, symbol of "excellence", on top, so much the better.

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Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL

Bewitched by the gods of Bali

When the Dutch first landed at this island in the 16th century, it is said that half the sailors refused to leave for home again, so bewitched were they by the Balinese women.

In an effort to restore order, their officers imposed their own standards upon the women, forcing them to adopt a more modest form of dress. Today it is the westerners who go topless and the locals who feel their moral standards threatened, but fortunately such indiscretions are limited to Bali's southernmost beaches.

Kuta Beach is overrun by motor cycles and package deals, with a place to stay down every alley. But even here, as the surfers make for the beach in the early morning, they must side-step past a serene Balinese lady totally absorbed in offering the gods of the household shrine a gift of rice grains in a tiny basket woven from strips of banana leaves. Deep in concentration, she scatters rose and marigold petals and, over it all, shakes holy water from an hibiscus flower, her hands making dancing, ritual movements.

By day brilliant butterflies seem to be everywhere

Behind the surf and palm-fringed beaches lies an interior of extraordinary beauty. Rarely can intensive agriculture have produced such an agreeable effect on a landscape. Rich damp volcanic soil supports terraces of jagged green paddy, and the air is filled with the sound of water moving in an intricate system of irrigation, part natural stream and part earthen banks, linked by bamboo pipes.

By day brilliant butterflies seem to be everywhere. At night the fields and paths are lit by fireflies and the frogs set up a great cacophony. The village of Ubud is set in such scenery; it's a place to head for first if, like the Balinese, you decide to treat the sea with suspicion.

It's easy to while away days wandering around Ubud and the surrounding fields and

Sarah Montgomery visits the dreamy Indonesian islands, joins the throng of a religious carnival and then escapes to the peace of a bamboo beach house



communities. There are woodcarvers and painters in abundance, and you can compare their work with that of the two museums. In the neighbouring village of Peliatan live members of an internationally renowned dance troupe. Some of the "tourists" you meet will be students, staying for months in Ubud to study gamelan music and the rudiments of Balinese dance.

Although there are performances most nights, dance is certainly not just for the tourists. Like the rest of the island's cultural activity, it is vitally linked with religion which is still central to the life of the people. So is having a good time, the two combining admirably in the form of festivals, one of which is almost always being celebrated somewhere.

Quite fortuitously, our arrival coincided with Galungan. For 10 days the gods come to earth to share in the festivities. The streets are decorated with green bamboo poles, mythical beasts who dance under the watchful eyes of priests shaded by temple parasols of shocking pink and bright orange.

Everyday life on the island comes to a standstill while entire villages devote themselves to fitting the gods. On

the last day of the festival, huge quantities of food are prepared and carried to the temple, balanced in elaborate arrangements on the heads of the women. Intensely practical at all times, the Balinese believe that the gods take the essence of the feast, leaving plenty of substance for mere mortals.

During this time we abandoned all attempts at formal sight-seeing. Rising at six, as the mist lifted from the paddy fields, we would be dressed correctly in sarong and temple sash by the smiling owner of the *losmen*, the simple lodge.

At night the fields and paths are lit by fireflies

ings in which we were staying and, in response to the call of the great drums, head for the temple like everyone else.

There were other days on which to see the major sights. Organized tours can have their advantages, but it's much more fun to travel by *hemo*. These small vans are the major local transport system, forming an utterly unintelligible network which criss-crosses the island. It can take up to 10 changes to get where you want to go, but a smattering of Indonesian, gleaned from a small phrase-book, helps.



Heaven on earth: women carrying baskets on their heads collect fresh fruit for gifts to the gods during one of Bali's festivals



Beach bliss: fishermen with primitive boats on the sea-shore

We would arrive in a village and announce loudly our intended destination. Fierce competition among *hemos* owners ensured that we would be rapidly whisked away by whoever was most persistent, and crammed into the back along with several toothless old ladies, children, two bunches of green bananas, a protesting hen, a sack of rice, a basket of oranges and half a

bicycle. *Hemos* are never full. In this manner we visited Klungkung, ancient capital of the rajahs, and learnt from the wonderful paintings on the ceiling of the Hall of Justice exactly what would happen to those who committed the heinous crime of excess flatulence. We wandered around the ruined water palace at Tirtagangga, lazed on the coral beach at Candi Dasa, and

watched the arrival of families making a pilgrimage to the holiest of Balinese temples, Pura Besakih, on the slopes of Gunung Agung, the largest of Bali's central volcanoes.

Crossing this volcanic ridge, climbing hills rich with cloves and coffee, we headed north to Lovina Beach. Here (in the absence of surf and Australian tourists) we stayed in a bamboo house on a beach of black sand and lived on fish, pineapple and avocado. We spent the days snorkelling. Strange fishing boats - dug-out canoes stabilized with bamboo outriggers, their prows carved into sea-monsters bearing a single horn - carried us out to the coral reefs.

Back in Ubud after a 10-day circuit of the island, we were greeted as old friends, with the best room in the *losmen* saved especially for us, and bicycles ready for a last evening's expedition.

Of such memories is Bali made: sunset in Petulu village, as the first of the white herons fly in. They arrive in V-shaped

formation, luminescent against a sky of darkening pink, to roost in their hundreds on the coconut palms. Dusk rapidly gives way to darkness and we cycle home at full speed without lights, scattering chickens, with cries of the creaking greeting, "Selamat sore", echoing in our ears.

TRAVEL NOTES

Flights to Indonesia on the national airline Garuda 01-486 3011 are invariably sold at discounted prices through consolidators like Hermes Travel (01-830 2555) who quote July fares of £529 economy return and £2,682 first class return; and Travel 2 (01-272 3090). Accommodation ranges from luxury hotels of international standard in the tourist centres to simple lodgings, *losmen*, in both town and country. *Losmen* can usually offer double rooms with private bathrooms in the local style for between £2 and £8 a night including breakfast.

TRAVEL NEWS

VAT hits holidays

The travel trade has managed to stave off the introduction of VAT on foreign package holidays for some time, but it is now all set to be imposed on the European Community from April 1 next year.

The good news for holiday-makers, though, is that the tax will not be calculated on the basic package price but only on the tour operator's gross profit margin on the bought-in items like hotel accommodation. Air, sea and surface travel will be zero-rated. Leading tour operators estimate that the new tax should add only about £1 or £2 to the cost of a typical Mediterranean package.

Special offers on 1987-88 skiing holidays are appearing even before many of the brochures have been published. John Morgan Travel (0730 68621) is encouraging customers to book before September by offering reduced rates on some December and January departures. Chalet holidays in Zermatt and Verbier, for instance, will be priced at £179 for a week in December.

The right lines

Rail is the most efficient way of travelling round Switzerland so the opening of a new station at Geneva Airport is welcome news. It adjusts the air terminal and the journey to the city centre now takes only six minutes.

Pyramid selling

Hayes & Jarvis (01-245 1051) is bringing down the price of some holidays to Egypt next winter by running weekly charter flights to Luxor between December and April. A holiday in Luxor itself will cost, typically, between £249 and £499 for a week and a new seven-night Nile cruise ranges from £398 to £578.

Travel books

The first batch of a new series of China Guides has just been published by Collins with three volumes, each priced at £8.95, covering Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong.

Philip Ray

HOLIDAYS & VILLAS

Continued from page 14

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ANDREWS STANTON

THE TIMES COOK

A slice of the upper crust

From the rich, full flavour of fresh bread to a simple, rough pâté, there is nothing to beat the home-made touch, says guest cook Lynda Brown

Diana Leedebat



There is a certain satisfaction in taking time out in the kitchen occasionally to go back to basics: to dabble, perhaps, in the kind of things our grandmothers took as part of the daily kitchen routine, or simply as a soothing restorative from the pressures of inventiveness which seem to dog the food scene these days.

Take home-made bread, for example. While it is true that the consumer revolution did much to stem the tide of Mother's Pride, it is equally true that, with very few exceptions, if you want really good bread you must bake your own.

White bread in particular has become the Cinderella of the baking world — and yet how good and satisfying it can be. For anyone who yearns for the rich, full taste of a true country bread, this Canadian recipe may yet convert the nation back. And please don't worry when you read it through for the first time — modern recipes have conditioned us into believing that successful bread needs a lot of yeast and not much time. In fact, the reverse is true.

Like a good wine, bread needs long ageing to ripen and mature the dough, and minimum yeast, the natural yeasts present doing the job much more effectively. The result is a loaf full of flavour and a wonderful honeycomb texture such as you have never bitten into before, or at least not for a very long time.

Pain de Campagne (1 large loaf)

Day one

225gm/8oz unbleached strong white bread flour

scant tsp salt

225ml/8 fl oz tepid water

scant ½ tsp dried yeast

Day two

120gm/4oz wholemeal, rye or barley flour

120ml/4 fl oz tepid water

Day three

Approx 340gm/12ozs of unbleached strong white flour

120ml/4 fl oz tepid water

On day one, mix the ingredients listed in a roomy bowl, cover with a plate and leave overnight. Repeat this on day two, adding the water first, and then the flour to the batter, now known as a sponge due to its bubbly appearance.

On day 3, beat in the rest of the water and enough flour to make a workable dough, knead for 5-10 minutes, adding extra flour as necessary until the dough is smooth

and elastic. Cover and leave to rise at room temperature until it has doubled in bulk, or for as long as you want until it is convenient to bake the bread.

At this stage, punch back the dough, knead briefly, and shape into a long oval loaf. Place on a baking sheet liberally sprinkled with flour or semolina, sprinkle a little more on top, and prove in a warm place, lightly covered with a plastic sheet. This should not take long, and as the dough has a tendency to spread, it is better to under rather than over-prove (it will rise spectacularly in the oven in any case).

Meanwhile, preheat the oven to its hottest setting. Slash the top of the loaf with a couple of deep cuts using a sharp knife and transfer immediately to the oven. After 15 minutes, turn down to moderate heat, 180°C/350°F/gas mark 4, and continue cooking for another 20-25 minutes. Cool on a rack.

Once you have mastered the basic idea, this method can be used to make breads with different flours and mixes to suit individual tastes.

An inexpensive basic pâté is another useful recipe to be able to turn your hand to. This is one of the best I have found, from *Gambols in Gastronomy*, published in 1960 by William Wallace Irwin, a flamboyant writer of pre-nouvelle days. Purists will no doubt frown at the amount of breadcrumbs, but do not let that bother you — judge the results for yourself.

Pork Liver Pâté (serves 4-5)

120gm/4oz lean pig's liver

60gm/2oz pork back fat

120gm/4oz soft breadcrumbs, preferably brown, soaked in 150ml/5 fl oz milk

1 heaped tsp finely chopped mushrooms

2.5cm/1 in piece of carrot, finely grated

1 tsp minced onion

¼ tsp each of nutmeg, thyme, powdered or crumbled bay leaf and black pepper

½ tsp salt

1 tbs brandy

1 small egg

Mince the liver and fat, or process briefly in a food processor, putting in the cubed pieces of fat first and then adding the liver, but be careful not to process to a slush. Turn into a bowl, add all the other ingredients and beat well. The consistency should be that of a thick batter something like that of a plum pudding.

Let it stand for a couple of hours for the flavours to mingle, pour into a smallish deep terrine or earthenware dish, leaving 2.5cm/1 in of headspace, set on another contain-

ing a good 2.5cm/1 in water and cook in a low oven, 140°C/275°F/gas mark 2, for about 1½ hours, or until the pâté shrinks from the side and the juices run clear. Cool and leave for 24 hours before serving.

The Chicken Information Bureau recently hailed the virtues of "added value" chicken products, ready coated with extraneous flavourings, a market now apparently worth £150 million a year. Stuff and nonsense, I say. For a truly succulent, tasty chicken, try cooking it in nothing other than a casing of salt, which bakes to form a hard crust but keeps the bird beautifully moist and tender.

Hot or cold, it revives a plain chicken into something worth eating. Should you be so lucky as to live near an amenable butcher who deals in real chickens, ask him to get you an unseasoned one, complete with head and feet, and to hang it for you for a week or even longer, as you would the Christmas turkey, and you will find the flavour much improved.

Chicken in Salt (serves 4)

1½kg/3½lb fresh chicken, trussed, up to 2½kg/5½lb salt

Spread two huge pieces of cooking foil over a roasting tin, overlapping the centres by about 10cm/4 in. Cover the base with a 2.5cm/1 in layer of salt and sit the chicken on top. Cover the vent with a piece of foil to stop salt getting into the cavity.

Using your arms, draw the foil up loosely around the chicken. Fill with enough salt to completely bury the bird and wrap up tightly, enclosing the mountain of salt. Cook in a very hot oven, 230°C/450°F/gas mark 8 for 1½-2 hours. Remove from the oven (at this point you can happily keep the bird waiting in its cocoon for half an hour or so), and fold back the foil to reveal the hardened crust.

Bring the whole thing down on the working surface, remove the pieces of broken crust and ease the chicken out gently. It will be pale golden and aromatic. Brush any remaining salt off with a good thick brush.

You can put herbs or other flavourings into the cavity and under the skin if desired, and it lends itself to any number of little sauces, relishes or fruit compotes to serve on the side. A creamy garlic purée made with fresh garlic, let down with milk or a little cream, is ambrosial.

DRINK



Breaking down the barriers to excellence

Alsace's out-of-favour wines deserve fairer treatment in Britain says Jane MacQuitty

"It is very slow," admits Master of Wine Liz Berry. "We've done a tasting every month since we started but we couldn't run it as a business just on its own." The business concerned is not offering some obscure Zimbabwean range but the wines of a classic French wine producing region, Alsace.

Quite why the fine, dry, fruit and flower garden white wines of Alsace have been ignored by British wine drinkers for years has always been a mystery to me. But Liz Berry, who, together with her husband Michael, started L'Alsacien in September last year from the same address as their excellent and comprehensively stocked Old Brompton Road wine emporium La Vigneronne, feels she has the answer. "People are confused with the identity of Alsace wines; all the names are rather Germanic and it is very hard to get them to realize that these wines are actually dry."

She believes that one solution would be to reduce the gothic script and teutonic style of most Alsace labels so that they would play second fiddle to the words "Alsace" and "France". But clearly, with Britain's wine drinking under two million bottles of Alsace wines annually, compared to the 122 million consumed by the French themselves, the reduction of the Great British Public's Alsace-appreciating palate has some way to go.

To my mind, the Berry's L'Alsacien wine list, running to nearly 40 pages and offering more than 100 hundred different Alsace wines, liqueurs and eaux de vie, does much to dispel many of this region's most obvious wine misconceptions. It can be obtained from L'Alsacien, 105 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (01-589 3320) and the latest edition will be published in a fortnight's time.

The catalogue also lists the various types of Alsace wines, together with a tasting note on each, and gives a useful rundown on the region's seven major wine grapes, plus Alsace oddities such as the Klevener de Heiligenstein, a white wine made from a black grape, the Savagnin Rosé grape, a vari-

ety now found only in and around the village of Heiligenstein. It provides full details of many of the 50 or so grand cru vineyards and includes a useful vintage chart.

Alsace wines with their mostly bone dry, pungent, fruity-floral style, make perfect warm weather wines. In addition, their direct, dry, almost austere character makes them excellent food wines, unlike their sweet German relatives on the other side of the Rhine.

A good place to start L'Alsacien wine appreciation is the '84 Riesling, Grand Cru Weisberg. Domaine Fernand Gresser, from a stony slope overlooking the village of Andlau, to the north of the region (£5.75). This green-tinted white wine has a lovely, firm, verdant herbaceous scent and taste and would happily partner many a summer dish.

Much finer still is the '85 Riesling Kaefferkopf from the unfortunately named Sick Dreyer firm (£6.25), whose aromatic, flowery bouquet and delicious, full, floral palate shows all the promise of the highly regarded 1985 Alsace vintage.

Alsace wines made from the Muscat grape are not easy to find over here and L'Alsacien has an excellent example with its '85 Muscat, Grand Cru Hachburg, £7.59 from Joseph Cattin, whose elegant, distinctive, flowering currant style has been very well made.

For me, the starriest wine in L'Alsacien's firmament is its amazing '83 Gewürztraminer Grand Cru Kirchberg de Barr, also from Jean Heywang (£7.20), whose glorious, rich, full, spicy lychee-like nose and taste is a must for every Gewürztraminer fan.

Finally, the carefully made Alsace wines from the Domaine Osterberg, now under the youthful eye of André Osterberg, are worth seeking out. L'Alsacien has a few but the major stockists of Osterberg are Morris & Verdin at 28 Churton Street, London SW1.

It has a sensational Osterberg '83 Gewürztraminer Vendange, Tardive, whose heavenly, full-flavoured rose-scented wine is rich but not sweet and boasts an extraordinary 14.8 per cent alcohol. Not cheap, priced at £15.20 a bottle, but an Alsace experience all the same.

L'Alsacien's prices listed here are the per case per bottle rate.

EATING OUT

Capable with kebabs and Greek without the grease

Jonathan Meades on a Greek feast, a Japanese jaunt and a not-so-royal café that would make Wilde go wild

The kebab — why the British should have adopted the Turkish word rather than the French or Greek one remains unclear — is as universal a type of food as the pie; but while the notion is immutable, actual methods are as varied as the materials.

Preparatory marinades may be wet or dry or non-existent. Those used by brochette-operators in the Moroccan cities of Fez and Meknes are dry, while a Greek Cypriot restaurant, such as Vrakina's, marinades lamb's liver in red wine and lemon juice. It also bards its pork souvlaki with strips of fat so that the meat does not dessicate with the heat of the embers.

This is one of the better establishments in Camden Town, which, along with Haringey, has the largest concentration of Cypriots in

London: one may assume, then, that it is one of the better establishments in the capital. It occupies the former premises of Koritsas, a café notable for its never-switched-off television and its homous soup, a dish which is offered nowhere else.

Vrakina's management has clothed the place with gingham; it has also introduced, as a decorative feature, a sort of "roof" of panicles, which protrudes from high up on one wall.

The menu is less original than that of its predecessor, but the meat is of really decent

quality. The mixed grill offers the aforesaid liver, which is succulent and quite transformed by its pre-grill bath; first rate sheftalia; the pork I mentioned; tasteless mushrooms (grilled fungus must have oil); a lamb cutlet flavoured with coriander; smoked pork; the hard salt cheese called halloumi; delicious loukanika sausage which is akin in name, if not matter, to the Basque sausage.

The taramasalata is a disappointment — gelatinous and shy of cod's roe. If you drink retsina, which I find irresistible, and burn your mouth with

ouzo, two of you will still pay less than £30.

The Japanese kitchen is, unsurprisingly, hierarchical. Barbecue cooking — the word barbecue is, incidentally, Hawaiian — is called yakitori and is on a lowish rung of the ladder. So far as I know the only specialist yakitori bars in London are the Kitchen Yakitori off Bond Street, which I wrote about last December, and Nambatei, a minimalist, cramped place with a non-Nippon management — it is part of a fast-food chain with branches in Japan, USA and south-east Asia.

The obligatory rock and roller — you find at least one specimen in every Japanese restaurant — was at the bar itself, pouring sake for the cook and telling anyone who cared to listen about his last gig in Osaka. He was evidently an old hand, for despite his ear-splitting and nose-to-eyes damming, he ate and ordered like a Sanyo middle manager — he kept on demanding further dishes, more sake, more Suntory beer, and rendered the idea of a "structured" meal quite redundant.

The main problem with this place is the homogenization, which is achieved by dumping most skewers in a pot of sauce the colour of oxblood before they are served. They are served chaotically. The good skewers held pork wrapped round asparagus and eel fillets; the less good ones held over-salted ox tongue, "veal" (which was reminiscent of salt pork) and aubergine, green peppers and mushrooms.

The nicest thing to come off the grill was an inch-thick lamb chop with a fistful of garlic. Otherwise there are raw vegetables with a dip that contains some form of radish and something billed as Japanese Madeira cake, which suggests that this is one area in which plucky little Madeira really can vanquish mighty Japan. With three beers and no other drinks, the bill for two was £49.

It is because I have not been there rather than because of a desire to plead sexual probity that I am forced to admit that I am a stranger to houses of assignation in Istanbul. Still, I imagine that the "reception" area of such a house would not look much different to Pasham, a new and decoratively outrageous restaurant off Regent Street. It might seem a sacrilege to



mention wedding cake in such a context, but that wearsome epithet is the one that fits this place's frenetic plasterwork.

Wherever you turn, there is a capital in the shape of a woman's head or a gilt sconce or an ormolu moulding. And if you don't turn, you're looking into a mirror that reflects those and more: tanks whose fish had not yet been delivered, a mixed forest of woodgrains, the waiter who hasn't a clue what you're on about.

But after a few false tries he'll bring what you want. It's best to want kebabs — the starters such as mashed aubergine, cold and unsalted tongue and artichoke hearts with peas and carrots were mainly notable for their lack of spice and thus of flavour. When the French talk about ingredients talking for themselves, they are not so ingenuous as to believe that things talk without some interpretative agent, some mediating complement. Here there is a fear of dressing up — the kitchen should take its cue from the decor.

Its kebabs, though, are commendable: they are spiced up with considered abandon. The dish I ate comprised one of well-flavoured beef with another of indeterminate (lamb?) mince, formed to make something like a spirit level of meat. A long with these you get some lumps of chicken, a powerful home-woven yoghurt sauce and pulped tomato full of chilli.

The thing to avoid here is paslamli cooked in foil: it is as

bitter as aloes and chewy as erasers. Turkish wines are not that subtle and Buzbag is a kiss from Mike Tyson. Unlike many Turkish wines, it doesn't have the phone number of the winery on its label, so one is bereft of a good afternoon's telephonic complaining, £34 for two.

Richard Ellman's forthcoming biography of Oscar Wilde enumerates the sermons preached against that dandy after his fall. I doubt if any one of them would cause him so much grief as the sight of Trust House Forte's Café Wilde. We all know he was prodigal with his words, his body, his life — but to suffer the posthumous indignation of loaning his name to this place!

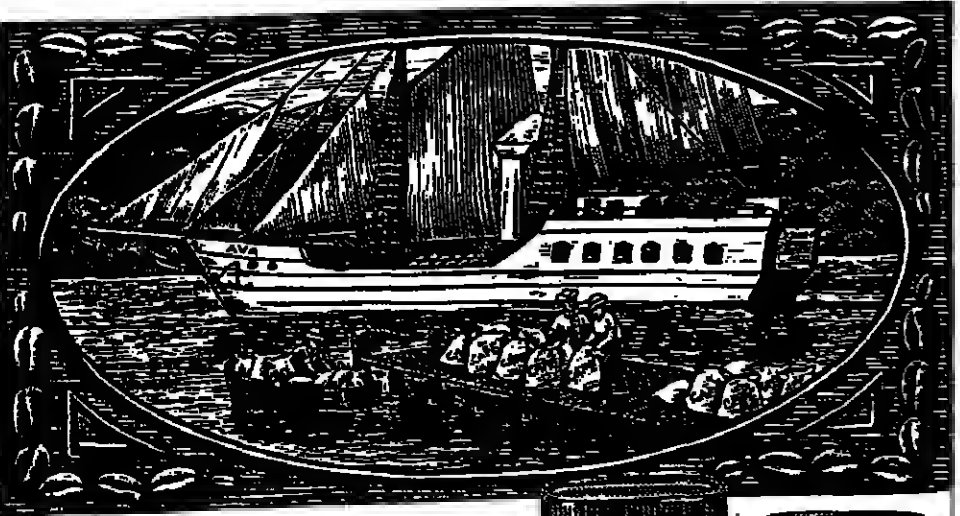
This chunk of the Café Royal has been refurbished with an acreage of satin-finish wood and a tub of two of brownish paint. I ate a slummy brochette of mixed meat which cost £6.25 — so each inch-cube of displeasure worked out at £1.25. Someone should think again before there's a rumbling in Père Lachaise.

Yarakina: 10 Kentish Town Road, NW1 (01-485 5743) Mon to Sat, noon-3pm and 6-12pm.

Nambatei: 73 Heath Street, NW3 (01-794 8158) Tues to Sun, noon-3pm and 5.30-11.30pm.

Pasham: 12 New Burlington Street, W1 (01-434 3583/4) Everyday, noon-midnight.

Café Wilde: 18 Air Street, W1 (01-437 8050) Everyday, noon-midnight.



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No, not a programme about the latest Stock Exchange scandal, but a compelling report for *Omnibus* (BBC1) on the growth area of international publishing deals. In a week when Thomson paid £210 million for Associated

TELEVISION

Book Publishers, and Robert Maxwell was still locked in legal combat with Harcourt Brace, the report was timely. For too long, as Matthew Evans of Faber put it, publishing has been a cosy, dusty occupation: it is time for it to become a real business.

And big business it now certainly is, as the casino graphics and expensive skyscraper backgrounds of this programme continually reminded us. Catherine Cookson has a £4 million deal for a stack of novels. Shirley Conran will expect £2½ million worldwide for her next. We met plucky Douglas Adams, as he hitchhiked round Scotland promoting his latest book, whose American rights had been auctioned off over the phone in a hotel room for over \$2 million.

This is all, as Adams cheerfully admitted, fine for the successful few, but where does it leave the struggling first-time novel-writer or compiler of poetry collections? The clear answer seemed to be nowhere. Fewer and fewer authors will earn more and more money writing fewer and fewer books which sell more and more copies. Eventually the whole publishing world will become one massive airport bookstall selling one Frederick Forsyth book. But that reckons without competition, which drives these deals on: the problem, as Robert Lusty nicely put it (using *Cider With Rosie* as an example) is that not every author aims at or even wants a world market.

The programme's excellent reporting of the multi-national deals had the beginnings of interesting talks with Peter Mayer of Penguin and Matthew Evans about the reasons publishers take on different sorts of books. But it was diffused by a digression into publicists and their predictable work, here limited to looking decorative in the Groucho Club. It was the engaging and forthright Roger Strauss from New York who put the current first of the magazines for publishing houses into the best perspective: not philanthropy, not even the certainty of profit (unlikely at best) but pure ego was the main reason for the boom. And that scarcely bodes well for authors.

William Holmes

Paul Griffiths interviews Ernst Krenek, aged 87, who is in London to attend an Almeida concert of his music

Modern music's great survivor



The composer Ernst Krenek: "I am now an old gentleman living in the middle of the desert"

Born in Vienna in 1900, Ernst Krenek is our last witness to the cultural turmoil of the century's first quarter: one shakes a hand that shook the hands not only of Schoenberg and Stravinsky, but of Rilke, Berg, Busoni, Adorno, Kraus, and one intercepts a mind, still spry and creative, that has puzzled through the maze of musical developments since the First World War.

I ask first why at that time he had elected to study with Franz Schreker rather than Schoenberg. "Schoenberg did not have such a reputation in bourgeois circles: he was regarded as a madman. Schreker was more reliable. Also, it was difficult during the war to get transport out to Modling."

"But then after the war I did go to one of the private concerts: one had to ring up one of the 'bodyguards' to ask permission to be admitted. And after the concert a little man came up to speak, looking very shy, and I thought: 'Who is this person? Can't they find anybody more impressive to make the announcements?' Of course, that was Schoenberg. Then a little later I called on him, and we had a heated discussion for two hours about who was the greater composer. Beethoven or Schubert. Naturally, he was for Beethoven. He didn't mind how long he argued, but he had to make his point."

Krenk has travelled to London from his Palm Springs home to be present at the Almeida Festival concert tomorrow night which is featuring five of his works.

In the early 1920s Krenek moved with Schreker to Berlin. "It was a more progressive, more aggressive place, and my music took on those characteristics. But then I changed my style rather drastically when I lived in Switzerland in 1923-25 and met Stravinsky; his *Pulcinella* suite made a great impression, though I wasn't so much interested in neo-classicism as in a return to romanticism."

Out of that came his "jazz opera" *Jonny spielt auf*, which had an extraordinary success in the Twenties. I wonder if he has ever regretted that success.

"No! Why should I regret it?" Perhaps, I suggest, because it had so overshadowed his other works. "Oh yes, I had to make a great effort to cleanse my name, and other things have not become so well known: the Second Symphony, *Orpheus und Eurydice*, the Sixth String Quartet. While he continues to unroll the catalogue of 237 works in his head, his wife puts in a bid on behalf of the Jason opera *Der goldene Bock*."

But we return to Switzerland, where he met Rilke as well as Stravinsky. "I visited him in his chateau, and we took long walks, talking. He said he didn't care for people setting his poetry to music, and so I was very surprised a year later to receive from him a beautiful blue envelope, with his seal, and inside were three poems to set. After another year I did it, and I sent him a wire: I got just a pencil note back from the sanatorium, one of his last letters."

At the end of the 1920s

Krenk came, as he says, "back to Schoenberg".

"I think I had the impression that I had reached the end of the line with my neo-romanticism: it didn't produce any more possibilities. And because of my acquaintance with Berg and Webern, I came to know their music, and studied it." Were they personally approachable? "Berg yes; he was a very social person, very easy to talk to. Webern less so. He didn't talk much unless the subject interested him; then he would start a little preachment."

However, Webern was the greater musical influence, and he has followed Webern's practice of beginning a work with the composition of a 12-note series rather than a musical theme. "I also knew Adorno very well, and visited him in Oxford in 1935; he influenced me very much intellectually, and because of that I was separated from Stravinsky - but then I saw Stravinsky often when he turned to 12-tone music and we were both in California."

"Karl Kraus was also a profound influence on my intellectual development. I read his magazine ever since 1918, and I knew him personally in his last two years. I was very impressed by his moral stature; his integrity, his intransigence. And I was impressed by his poetry. I selected seven poems to set to music, and he came to the first performance; though he didn't understand anything of music,

and he certainly didn't like 12-tone music. Schubert's 'Bei dir' was the only thing on the programme that appealed to him: it was the closest to his beloved Offenbach."

Krenk also admired Kraus as his model in writing German (he has written most of his own librettos and some verse for songs), but then in the mid-1930s he began learning English in the increasing likelihood that we would have to make his home in America. He had also, I point out, prepared himself for the journey in *Jonny spielt auf*.

"Yes, but at that time I didn't know anything about America except that there were gangsters and there was Prohibition, and I didn't like either. The picture was purely romantic, in the spirit of Goethe's phrase: 'Amerika, Du bist es besser.' After all, the black man in the opera represents America and optimism; if I'd known how negroes are really treated, I couldn't have written it."

It was in 1938 that he made the move to the United States, after which his music began to introduce elements of the newer serialism and electronic material, but without, as he sees it, any further essential change of style. I ask, finally, whether his unparalleled experience of the range of 20th-century music has left him with any view of where we go from here.

"I am now an old gentleman living in the middle of the desert. I don't listen to much music. And the little that I do hear, once in a while, I don't care for."

Wonderful, but
too much PR

EXHIBITIONS

Ansel Adams:
Classic Images
Barbican

Undoubtedly an important part of Henry Moore's hold on the public imagination is that, like Picasso - yet how unlike - he cut the right sort of figure for a great artist in the middle of the 20th century. And he did it, seemingly, quite unselfconsciously.

Ansel Adams, four years his junior, would appear to have gone very deliberately about creating what is almost an American equivalent among artistic personalities: with him, too, one is conscious (or meant to be) that he has sprung from the soil, is in tune with the forces of Nature, and all the rest of it.

In Adams's case, it all has Whitmanesque overtones and, if one tends to think of Whitman as a bit of a poseur, we are likely to recognize his modern disciple as (what may be the same thing) a sus-

piciously skilful manipulator of his own PR.

This makes it rather more difficult than it should be to take the current, deeply reverential show of Adams's "Classic Images" (that is what they are firmly called), at the Barbican Art Gallery until July 19, absolutely at its face value. Of course Adams was a wonderful photographer: the textures of his best landscapes look positively edible, his portraits are penetrating, his close-ups of wood and rock have powerful abstract qualities.

For those with some technical interest there is a room of paired images produced by different printing processes, and for those who would like to look a little beyond the familiar sage of the backwoods there are some intriguing experimental pieces which show him reacting to the sophisticated urban currents in photography during the Twenties and Thirties. Yes, he is wonderful, but it is a pity he put quite so much time and energy into telling us so.

John Russell Taylor

Splendid fun

A Midsummer
Night's Dream
Regent's Park

to a June as vile as this one Caroline Smith tempted the gods by beginning her production with a thunderclap. Perhaps sympathetic magic was at work, for the rain held off until the theatricals of the last scene.

It will be a sad business if the weather curtails future performances since Quince's troupe are a brave crew and their antics round off a production which, offering no amazing new insights, does adorn a straightforward reading with pleasant touches. On the natural set of grass, trees and steps seemingly cut into the rocky mound, fairies metamorphose from the bushes, stealing forward to oversee the mortal world.

Paul Shelley as Oberon makes several such early sorties. Where other performers have not mastered the art of holding our willing attention while raising their voices, Shelley, more the wise teacher than monarch, never blurs the clear pointing of his lines. However, when Titania (Lynn

Farleigh) describes the world thrown into disorder by their quarrel, the scene needs clearer emphasis or corroborative support.

The bubbling laughter in Juliette Grassby's Hermia gives her early scenes a delightful sense of impetuous love; and, in another agreeable touch, Peter Doran's Lysander ruffles his hair to give it the fashionable look before edging up on her with embraces in mind. The confusions of the love-crazed couples generate tremendous jollity, at least until they start shouting. Christopher Ryan takes the character of Puck from the line that he makes Oberon laugh, and begins by playing him as a jester, earthy, rustic and gifted with immortal middle age.

And so, weather permitting, to Quince's tragicomic comedy, with Ian Talbot's Bottom slapping the navel bag of his barrel armour and unconsciously weeping after rubbing his eyes with onion. The production misses the spiritual nourishment of the poetry but, in the child, the genuine laughter is a quality to be grateful for.

Jeremy Kingston

THEATRE

Hard Times
King's Head

Dickens's warning on the consequences of uncaring economic theory is not without topical interest; and by half-dramatizing it, as a narrative with scenic illustration, Stephen Jeffreys has done remarkable justice to the fable.

Four actors appear against Hugh Durrant's grim satanic backcloth of the Coketown flywheels. They form up as a chorus or as a union meeting; they step out of character to tell the story; and they play the 20 parts involved in the chronicle of Gradgrind's School of Hard Facts, the rebellion of his children, and the martyrdom of Dickens's ideal worker, Stephen Blackpool.

Some of the performances in Dilys Hamlett's production achieve identity only by verging on the one-dimensional grotesque. John Curry, much too young for Gradgrind, goes through the show with his features locked in an immovable frown; Jonathan Stephens can do nothing but leer and bluster as Bounderby, the beastly banker.

Elsewhere, the same performers achieve light, well-nu-



Tom (John Curry) tells Louisa (Helen Bourne) he is leaving

anced performances. And there is some delicious acting from Susan Bovell as the matrimonially scheming Mrs Sparsit, whose genteel stratagems misfire on the grand scale.

Hard Times consists partly of Dickens's bumptious Victorian contemporaries and partly of Regency characters who emerge with startling delicacy and glancing wit. Witness Mr Stephens's transformation from the oafish banker to the poisonously well-bred voluptuary, Hart-house, or Helen Bourne,

changing from the ineffably self-sacrificial Louisa to Bounderby's frisky old mother.

Most other points, revealed most powerfully through compression, is that here, for once, Dickens is judging actions rather than people; and that Gradgrind, finally defeated by the prize pupil of his own model school, is still capable himself of undergoing a moral education. This is a model show that exerts an increasingly powerful grip.

Irving Wardle

Faulkner's shadow

Chris Peachment meets Richard Ford, whose novel of America's South, *A Piece of My Heart*, was published in Britain last week

"I did just kill a man here, wasn't a minute past you drivin' up."

"Who'd you kill?" he said, watching the empty boat dawdling in the rain breeze.

"Damned if I know. Whoever it was, though, didn't have no business being here. I'll tell you that. I'll tell you that right now."

It is giving nothing away to say that this exchange is both the end of the short prologue to Richard Ford's *A Piece of My Heart* and also the end of the whole sad and violent tale. Those precisely-caught cadences of speech, however, are very revealing, and if you don't recognize them as coming from the unlovely part of the American South, then a crash course in Faulkner and Eudora Welty is called for. Not that Richard Ford is exactly influenced by either of them, in spite of growing up "just across the way from Eudora."

He was born in Jackson,

Mississippi in 1944, and lived there for the first 18 years of his life. "There's no way you don't grow up surrounded by Faulkner. But he's too large a giant. You can't write under his shadow. If there is anything of Faulkner in my book, then I hope it's the best. And if there's anything of Eudora then I hope that's the best, too."

Ford left for college in Michigan in 1962, clear in his mind that he would never "get loose unless I went away."

"When you live in the South you either feel it is the centre of the world or you feel you are deprived of the rest of the country. There is still this residual pull there to be seen as the old romantic South, when in fact the best thing you can do for the South is to see it as no different from the rest of the country. The one way to upgrade your thinking about the South is to realize that the one and only way in which it differed was that it was wholly

founded on racism. 'Bismirched' is a word which keeps occurring to me in connection with the South's history."

A Piece of My Heart, his debut, was published in the States in 1976, but is only now achieving its first publication here. It still portrays a vicious and motiveless violence hanging over its milieu, a swampy island in the Mississippi, and a threat which seeps from its characters' pores.

"To say true, that was the way I was feeling about myself when I wrote it. I wrote it in Michigan where I had a feeling of utter displacement. I had a grant and I had, well, no excuses not to write it, and I felt fearful. It's a book about displacement, about trying to discriminate between love and sex, about trying to stay alive."

The Sports writer, his third novel, although his first to be published here in 1980, is altogether a funnier, more optimistic book, in spite of being about a man suffering a severe case of something like displacement. The journalist hero lives in New Jersey, has recently divorced after the death of a child, and spends his time in a sort of emotional wasteland immediately recognizable to almost anyone living in modern times; a state in which, for no obvious reason, the nerve endings are left exposed for too long to beat.

"One reviewer said it was about a mid-life crisis. And I thought: Well, it is. Nor. Why short-change me to that extent? The condition is one for which the word 'aliena-



Richard Ford: "I guess my sensibilities have softened a little"

tion" is simply inadequate. It's about a feeling of being exposed, of being on the spot, of being observed. It's also about coming to grips with exactly where you are geographically speaking.

"America is such an enormous place. And with the ability to move around so much, no one is ever in the place they think they ought to be. There is always the pull of the other place, the attractiveness of an unoccupied space. But these descriptions: someone's depressed, someone's alienated, they never seem adequate to me. But it is a quieter work than *A Piece of My Heart*. I'm older now and I guess my sensibilities have softened a little."

Ford now divides his time between Montana, where his wife is a town planner, and the South. Montana used to be home to a racy gang of

Brilliant mirror image

CONCERTS

Philharmonia/
Andrew Davis
Festival Hall

swept into its big tune with great conviction.

Why did Holst give the "god of jollity" a melody which (even without its public-school hymnbook connotations) is so awesomely stately? The answer is surely that true joy can only be based on emotional stability - the stability, in this case, of a great, aspiring tune for unison strings. And it was this rock-solid quality that Davis's performance captured.

He was good, too, in "Uranus", tilting it into a slightly lumpy, "music-

Bournemouth
Sinfonietta/Kojian
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Lebanese composer's lot was perhaps more hopeful. Brief as it was, the music spoke of a thoughtful artist with a certain skill in miniature forms.

It was conducted with assurance by Varujan Kojian, now music director of the Santa Barbara Symphony in California. He also gave trimly tailored support with the Bournemouth Sinfonietta to another Beirut musician who has studied and made his career here, the flautist Wissam Boustany. A sometime winner of the BBC's "Young Musician of the Year" competition, he showed in the Flute Concerto by Ibert a command of technique in fast

hall conjurer" vein. And his "Mars", although it seemed an unusually enthusiastic charge onto the battlefield, did have a feverish excitement.

But in more reflective movements, Davis's touch seemed less certain. "Neptune" was too fleshy to be ethereal (and the gallant ladies of the Philharmonia Chorus were surely held too long in the final "stuck groove" effect).

It was significant, too, that the Philharmonia's playing, which had been satisfyingly fat and assured elsewhere, became curiously tentative in the chording of "Venus".

Earlier a young Hungarian pianist, Károly Mocsári, made a creditable, if as yet rather innocuous, performance of Rachmaninov's Third Concerto.

Richard Morrison

figuration and legatin line which made this erstwhile test piece for the Paris Conservatoire an amiable diversion, too.

Mr Boustany returned to play an unannounced encore in Debussy's unaccompanied *Syrinx*, cool and graceful.

All these works were framed with symphonies by Mozart and Beethoven. Despite interruptions from a higher proportion of late-comers than audiences, Mozart's C major Symphony (K338) was played with cheerful vitality and polished detail, though the rhythmic pace was allowed to drag in the central Andante movement. It happened again in Beethoven's First Symphony, where otherwise the symphonic character and purpose was firmly established.

Noel Goodwin

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Weldon's worth

[illegible]

THE WEEK AHEAD



ROCK

JUST SO STORY: Peter Gabriel, who plays his first UK shows for four years, made a quantum jump in his career with the release of last year's *So*, a painstakingly produced album that confirmed his status as one of rock's most literate writers, and which sold by the multi-platinum barrowload around the world. He was nominated for more awards than any other artist at the last BPI ceremony, Tuesday, SECC, Glasgow (041 248 3000); Thursday for four nights, Ears Court Exhibition Centre, London SE15 (01-491 0044).



CONCERTS

PLAY TIME: Vladimir Ashkenazy, great pianist though he is, seems to conduct more often than he plays the piano in London these days, so his Festival Hall recital on Thursday is excellent news. He undertakes a characteristically demanding programme of early Romantic works centred on Schubert's "Wendee", Fantasy and Schumann's Sonata Op. 11, plus Schubert Impromptus and neglected Schumann Novellitas Op. 21. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191), Thursday, 7.30-9.30pm, £9-£10.



FILMS

ALLEN'S KEY: Mia Farrow now seems a permanent fixture in every Woody Allen film. In *Radio Days* (PG) she plays a squeaky-voiced cigarette girl swept to stardom over the airwaves. But no single character predominates: as writer and director, Allen creates a sweet and delicate tapestry of Jewish families, broadcasters and Manhattanites sharing hopes and dreams at the end of the 1930s. With Dianne Wiest as the spinster aunt forever chasing Mr Wrong, Odessa Haymarket (01-930 2738), from Friday.



RADIO

RED LETTER DAY: Alistair Cooke is the studio guest tomorrow for a special worldwide phone-in to be broadcast on Radio 4 and the BBC World Service from 12.10-1pm. Earlier (at 9.15am) he will have delivered his 2,000th *Letter from America*, an extraordinary record, especially as he has never missed an edition, even when on holiday. The *Letter* is now an institution, heard in every continent, and Cooke is established at one of the greatest radio talkers. The phone-in will be chaired by Charles Wheeler.



BOOKS

COMING OF AGE: Mary Wesley did not publish her first novel until she was 70, and next week comes her fifth, *Not That Sort of Girl* (Macmillan, £10.95). It is an idiosyncratic mixture of love story and social comedy, full of jokes, sex and twists. Mary Wesley has reached a time of life when she says what she wants without needing to preserve her dignity. The heroine of her new book, Rose, seems to have been the perfect wife who has become the ideal widow. But there is more to her long life than meets the eye.



THEATRE

POETRY IN DEVOTION: T.S. Eliot is the source of a tribute with the stage adaptation by producer/director Josephine Hart of the biography by Peter Ackroyd, *Let Us Go Then, You and I*. It includes narration by Joan Bakewell and readings by Eileen Atkins, Edward Fox and Michael Gough, among them "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" and "The Four Quartets". First presented at the Lyric Studio, Hammersmith, in 1986. Four weeks only. Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue (01-437 3686). Preview today. Opens Monday.

THEATRE LONDON

CLOSE TO THE BONE: Gordon Kennedy's national tour by Hull's Remedy Company in a show based on interviews with more than 100 working and retired nurses on the realities of nursing in the NHS. Warehouse, 62 Dingwall Road, Croydon, Surrey (01-680 4060). Preview Tues. Opens Wed.

EVERY GOOD BOY DESERVES FAVOUR: First London performances since its 1977 debut for Tom Stoppard's play. Set in a Soviet mental hospital, it features a full orchestra playing on stage. John Bird, Michael Feast, the Orchestra of St John's, Smith Square. Queen Elizabeth Hall (01-928 3191). Opens Tues. Until June 27. Performed as a double bill with *Seven Deadly Sins*, a cabaret of Brecht/Weill songs performed by Italian star, Milva.

FATHER AND SONS: Brian Friel's new play, from the novel by Turgenev, includes Alec McCowen, Robin Bailey, Meg Davies, Robert Glenister, Barbara Jefford, Richard Pasco. Directed by Michael Rudman. Lyttelton (01-928 2252). Preview Fri. June 27, 29, 30, July 6, 7, 8. Opens July 10. In repertory.

THE LOVER/A SLIGHT ACHE: Double-bill of Harold Pinter, directed by Kevin Billington and as seen recently in Vienna. Judy Buxton, Simon Williams, Barry Foster, Malcolm Ward and Jill Johnson. Young Vic. (01-928 6363). Preview Tues. Opens Wed. Until July 25.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: Lindsay Kemp Company brings this, *Flowers and The Big Parade* back to London for a three-week season. Spectacular musical, colourful mixture of theatre, dance and mime. Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916). Opens Tues. Until June 30. *Flowers* July 2-6; *The Big Parade* July 8-11.

THE PERFECT PARTY: British premiere of a satirical comedy by A. R. Gurney, directed by Alan Strachan. With Rosalind Ayles, Martin Jarvis, Richard Kane, Alison Skelbeck, Kate David. Greenwich, (01-858 7755). Preview from Thurs. Opens June 29.

OUT OF TOWN

EDINBURGH: *Tartuffe*: Liz Lochhead's translation of the Moliere comedy into rhyming contemporary Scots, directed by Ian Woodbridge, joins *The School for Scandal* to play in repertory until August. Royal Lyceum (031 229 9637). Free preview Thurs. Opens Fri.

MANCHESTER: *The Bluebird of Happiness*: A Woody Allen revue of sketches adapted for the stage by John Alvin, with music by Stanley Silverman. World premiere, directed by Braham Murray. Royal Exchange (061 833 9833). Preview from Thurs. Opens June 30.

POLESSEN LACEY: *Twelfth Night*: 38th open air theatre season at this National Trust property. Shakespeare is followed by *The Gondoliers*, *La Belle Helene* and various music shows. Open Air Theatre, Polesden Lacey, Dorset, Dorset (0372 57223). Opens Wed.

CONCERTS

SELECTED MESSIAEN: "The André Previn Selection" gets under way with the RPO playing Messiaen's *Turangalila Symphony*. Previn conducts. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

GERSHWIN YEARS: The Barbican's series starts with a programme called "The Hollywood Years", which includes Schoenberg's orchestration of Brahms's G major Piano Quartet as well as Gershwin's Cuban Overture and Second Rhapsody. Michael Tilson Thomas conducts the LSO. Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (01-628 8795). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

MANTAS MUSIC: South American piano music by

TELEVISION

THEATRE NIGHT: THE BIRTHDAY PARTY: Harold Pinter's nightmare play set in a grim seaside lodging house, first performed in 1958. Featuring Joan Plowright, Pinter, the late Colin Blakely, Kenneth Cranham and Julie Walters. (BBC 2, Sun, 9.20-11.10pm).

HAMMER - THE STUDIO THAT DRIPPED BLOOD: Fine profile of the British film studio that 30 years ago became an overnight byword for "shock/horror" in the forms of *Frankenstein*, *Dracula*, *Zombies* and *Warner Bros.* (BBC 2, Fri, 9.30-10.20pm).

AMERICAN IN PARIS: Second programme in the Barbican's Gershwin series and it finds Michael Tilson Thomas conducting the LSO in Debussy's *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune*, Milhaud's *La création du monde* besides Gershwin's *An American in Paris*, and Michel Beroff solos in Ravel's Piano Concerto for Left Hand. Barbican Centre, Thurs 7.45pm.

GALA DOUBLE: Sir Georg Solti and Craig Sheppard (pianos) join David Corkhill and Evelyn Glennie (percussion) for a charity concert to raise money for the Weidham College music room. Mozart's Sonata for four hands K448, Brahms Variations on a Theme by Haydn and Bartók's Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion. Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford (0865 864056), tonight, 7.30pm.

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: Covent Garden's *La Bohème* back on good form: tonight at 7.30pm with Giuseppe Patané conducting, on Wed John Barker conducts. Meanwhile, on Mon and Thurs at 7.30pm, further performances of *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, and on Tues and Fri at 7pm, *Manon*, with Julia Migenes in the title role. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: Three more performances of *Orpheus in the Underworld* (tonight, Mon and Thurs at 7.30pm), two more of Shostakovich's *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, on Tues and Fri at 7pm; and two more of David Pountney's sleazy updated *Carmen* on Wed and Sat. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161).

SCOTTISH OPERA: End an extremely successful season with further performances of its powerful, strongly cast *Billy Budd* (Tues and Fri); with Nura Esprit's outstanding production of *Madame Butterfly* (Wed and Sat June 27); and with a single performance of *The Barber of Seville* on Thurs. King's Theatre, Edinburgh (031 229 1201).

DANCE

DANSPRODUKTIE: This co-operative of dancer-choreographers from Holland gives three more performances of *Dubbelspoor*, based on Samuel Beckett (Today, Mon, Tues), then three of *George*, in which three choreographers all take George Antheil's music as their starting point. The Place, London WC1 (01-387 0031).

HEIDELBERG DANCE THEATRE: Only two more performances, today and tomorrow, of Hans Kresnik's play based on the life of Sylvia Plath. Jacob Street Studios, London SE1 (booking at Ticketmaster 01-379 4444).

NORTHERN BALLET: Robert de Warren's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, to Mendelssohn's music, is revived for a week at Bradford, opening Mon. Alhambra Theatre (0274 752000). Until June 27.

PHOTOGRAPHY

ASHINGTON: A coal mining town near Newcastle documented in great detail by young local photographer Mik Side Gallery, 9 Side, Newcastle (091 232 2208).

JEAN LARIVIERE: France's leading still-life photographer employs his considerable talents in promoting the travel accessory firm, Louis Vuitton, with stylish landscapes. Hamiltons Gallery, 13 Carlos Place, London W1 (01-499 9493).

FILMS

THE SECRET OF MY SUCCESS (PG): Michael J. Fox stars as the Kansas upstart reaching the top of Big Apple's business ladder with the help of deception and Helen Slater. Unimaginative comedy.

FILMS

GERSHWIN, rhapsody and blues

Modishly unacceptable though the idea may be at the moment, popular music is usually for people who do not really like music. It did, however, undergo a strictly temporary elevation in quality during the 1920s and '30s, following the almost simultaneous and inexplicable arrival of a number of unique composers. Among them were Jerome Kern, Irving Berlin, Richard Rodgers, Harold Arlen, Vernon Duke, and George Gershwin. Like most of the others, Gershwin was a New York Jew of Russian origin, but he was far more ambitious.

Whereas the rest were content to write memorable songs and see them produced in Broadway shows and Hollywood films, Gershwin aimed to conquer the concert hall and opera house. His tragedy, and our misfortune, was that he died, still short of 40, at the height of his powers, not long after composing his masterpiece, the opera *Porgy and Bess*.

The sheer freshness of his music, especially of his melodies, makes it hard to believe that he died at 39 years of age. On July 11, 1937. That his place in the music of our time may prove to be comparable to that of Johann Strauss II in 19th-century music was first suggested by Schoenberg.

The fact that the extremely popular Gershwin was a close friend of the then extremely unpopular Schoenberg is enough to indicate this his horizons were wider than those of almost anyone else ever to engage in popular music. Indeed, it goes some way to explain Gershwin's unique role in American music as a whole, and why the 50th anniversary of his death is being marked internationally.

RADIO

START THE WEEK: Alan Coren heads a team of comedy writers in a special edition of the Monday morning talk show. With Willie Rushton and Barry Cryer. Radio 4, Monday, 9.05-10am.

JOURNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH: Two cousins, Richard and Nick Crane, last year cycled from Chittagong in Bangladesh to the middle of the Chinese desert in Xinjiang province, the remotest spot on earth. The first of two documentaries compiled from their own recordings tells the story of a well-nigh suicidal adventure. Radio 4, Monday, 11.03-11.48am.

NO-ONE KNOWS WHY: David Suchet and Eleanor Bron star in a new production of Luigi Pirandello's *No-one Knows Why*. This is the first season of programmes marking the 120th anniversary of the playwright's birth. Radio 3, Friday, 7.30-9pm.

RADIO

DAVID BOWIE: A spectacularly-staged special effects show that features one of the most extraordinary "glass spider" before ramping around on various dancers and so forth. Support is Big Country. Tonight, Wembley Stadium, Middlesex (01-902 1234).

RADIO

FATS WALLER MEMORIAL: Keith Nichols leads a small group through some of the music associated with the immortal Waller, including his rarely heard *London Suite*. Thurs, Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 928 8800).

RADIO

LOOSE TUBES: The magnificent 121 sharp a bill with Dick Hockaday-Smith's *Electric Dream* before setting down to recording sessions for their third album. Tonight, Hackney Empire, 291 Mare Street, London E8 (01-985 2424).

RADIO

JACQUES LOUSSIER: For the Eighties, *Play Bach* has become *Bach to the Future* and the French pianist has found a fresh audience among the New Age crowd. Take your own pianos, chairs, rugs and ground sheets to this open-air concert at a National Trust property, starting at 8pm. Tonight, Dyrham Park, near Bath (information: 02217 2509).

RADIO

KENNY BURRELL: Since Wes Montgomery's death, no jazz guitarist has been able to match Burrell's combination of warmth and sophistication. Tonight and Mon-Sat, Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Firth Street, London W1 (01-430 0747).

RADIO

GEORGE PRICE BOYCE (1828-1897): 60 watercolours in bold Pre-Raphaelite colour and detail by a hitherto little known Victorian artist. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (01-921 1313), Mon-Sat 10am-5.50pm, Sun 2-5.50pm, free, until Aug 16. From Wed.

RADIO

THE AWFUL TRUTH (1937): Pacy, witty example of sophisticated Thirties Hollywood comedy with Cary Grant and Irene Dunne as the mistakenly divorcing couple fighting over custody of their dog (Channel 4, today, 1.40-3.20pm).

RADIO

HIS GIRL FRIDAY (1940): Cary Grant again and Rosalind Russell as the loving, feuding, wise-cracking reporters in one of the funniest slikest comedies ever. (Channel 4, today, 3.20-5.05pm).

RADIO

PAUL MASON: Stone carvings and reliefs which exploit a wide range of surface textures and which viewers, especially blind and partially-sighted people, are encouraged to touch. Usher Gallery, Lincoln Road, Lincoln (0222 27300), Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2.30-5pm, free, until July 26. From Today.

RADIO

ANDY GOLDSWORTHY: A gallery show for the artist who makes ephemeral, biodegradable sculptures in the countryside from leaves, stalks, ice and so on, and then photographs them. Fabian Carlson Gallery, 160 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-409 0519), Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-1pm, free, until July 18. From Tues.

RADIO

CONTEMPORARY RELIEF WOODCARVING: The opening of a touring show with many of the best British carvers contributing. Atkinson Art Gallery, Lord Street, Southampton (0704 33133), Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Thurs and Sat 10am-1pm, free, until July 18. From Today.

RADIO

WALKS

TODAY

LONDON'S GHOSTS, ALLEYS AND ODDITIES: Meet Embankment Tube, 11am, £2.

GRAND UNION CANAL: Meet Brentford BR Station, 11am, donations welcome.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATION

Continued from facing page

SATURDAY

BBC1 WALES: 5.15pm-5.30pm *News*; 5.30pm-5.45pm *News*; 5.45pm-6.00pm *News*; 6.00pm-6.15pm *News*; 6.15pm-6.30pm *News*; 6.30pm-6.45pm *News*; 6.45pm-7.00pm *News*; 7.00pm-7.15pm *News*; 7.15pm-7.30pm *News*; 7.30pm-7.45pm *News*; 7.45pm-8.00pm *News*; 8.00pm-8.15pm *News*; 8.15pm-8.30pm *News*; 8.30pm-8.45pm *News*; 8.45pm-9.00pm *News*; 9.00pm-9.15pm *News*; 9.15pm-9.30pm *News*; 9.30pm-9.45pm *News*; 9.45pm-10.00pm *News*; 10.00pm-10.15pm *News*; 10.15pm-10.30pm *News*; 10.30pm-10.45pm *News*; 10.45pm-11.00pm *News*; 11.00pm-11.15pm *News*; 11.15pm-11.30pm *News*; 11.30pm-11.45pm *News*; 11.45pm-12.00pm *News*; 12.00pm-12.15pm *News*; 12.15pm-12.30pm *News*; 12.30pm-12.45pm *News*; 12.45pm-1.00pm *News*; 1.00pm-1.15pm *News*; 1.15pm-1.30pm *News*; 1.30pm-1.45pm *News*; 1.45pm-1.60pm *News*; 1.60pm-1.75pm *News*; 1.75pm-1.90pm *News*; 1.90pm-2.05pm *News*; 2.05pm-2.20pm *News*; 2.20pm-2.35pm *News*; 2.35pm-2.50pm *News*; 2.50pm-3.05pm *News*; 3.05pm-3.20pm *News*; 3.20pm-3.35pm *News*; 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CHOICE

faces. Bulman comes back to London to find an open contract on his life, and his trusty assistant Lucy (Siobhan Redmond) has been reduced to giving tango lessons. The mood is changeable and there is a nice line in dry repartee: "What are you doing teaching the Chinese to tango?". "Somebody's got to do it". A multi-racial London is pleasingly atmospheric, and though the action is rather fluffed, the plot's touches of weirdness and its strange reversals emphasize that it's the interaction that counts.

Chris Petit

Siobhan Redmond and Don Henderson are in Shanghai for the new series of Bulman (TTV, 9.30pm)

Joan Plowright (as Meg) and Harold Pinter (Goldberg) in Pinter's *The Birthday Party* (on BBC2 9.30pm)

CHOICE

● Imagine Hemingway's *The Killers* relocated in an English seaside boarding house and you have something approaching Pinter's *The Birthday Party* (BBC2, 9.20pm). Meg, Stanley and Pety embellish their threadbare *ménage à trois* with mindless everyday remarks, which produces an effect like *across between ping-pong and Chinese water torture*. The rehearsed-to-death marriage lines occasionally perk up into idle banter - "You're just an old piece of rock cake" - but it's still language as a blunt instrument. Enter then two

the plausible, sinister and elegantly enigmatic Goldberg and his toughish assistant McCann who with their stiletto words and razor-sharp interrogatives cut the stultifying order to shreds. *The Birthday Party* is a farce of words rather than actions, and this revival has opted for a style that amounts to little more than filmed theatre. It is Pinter himself who impresses most as Goldberg, unlike some of the others, he manages to avoid sounding Pinterish. The late Colin Blakely, seen here in his last performance as the vicious McCann, shares acting honours with Pinter.

C.P.

CHANNEL 4

6.50 **Open University.**
2.20 **Film: The Great Escape** (1955). Starring John Wayne as the captain of a German freighter trapped in Sydney Harbour at the outbreak of World War Two. With Lana Turner as his girlfriend. Directed by John Farrow.
4.30 **The Sky at Night.** Patrick Moore and Dr Ron Maddison discuss the moon and its movements.
4.40 **Football: The World Test.** Former England and Glamorgan captain, Tony Lewis introduces the third day's play between England and Pakistan from Lords.
6.10 **Dancing in the Rain.** Ian Holm is the narrator of this documentary about the 700 hopeful and determined couples competing in the Ballroom Dancing Championships at Blackpool.
6.50 **Almeida Festival.** Documentary introducing this year's theme: the contemporary music of Vienna.
7.20 **NewsView with Moina Stuart and David Thewissen.** Weather.
8.00 **Cardiff Singer of the World.** This round of the international competition for young professional singers features performers from Ireland, Holland, China, Israel and Finland.
8.40 **Almeida Festival.** Michael Berkeley introduces the music of Hanns Eisler, one of the most original and prolific composers to emerge in modern Germany. Performing the music live from the Almeida Theatre in London are the composer's son, Georg Eisler, with several friends and pupils. Simultaneous broadcast with Radio 3.
9.00 **Film: The Friends of Eddie Coyle** (1973). Crime thriller starring Robert Mitchum as the only small-time hoodlum turned informer. When the underworld hears of his treachery, the Mob take out a contract on him. Directed by Peter Yates.
1.40 **Film: And Soon the Darkness** (1970). Pamela Franklin and Michele Dotrice star as two women on a cycling holiday in France. When one goes missing, a mysterious stranger offers to help. Directed by Robert Fuest. Ends at 1.20.

6.54 TV-men presented by Richard Keys, weather at 7.00, news at 7.00, sport at 7.10, 7.30 **The Wide Awake Club** Fun and games with Tommy Boyd, Arabella Warner and James Baker.

9.25 **Get Fresh**, The Millennium Dustin leads in *Lister* and *The Blow Away*; provide the music.

11.30 **The Roxy**, Music, news and gossip with David Jensen and Kevin Sharkey (1).

12.00 **ITN News**, 12.05 **Wrestling from Adwick**, Live from the Doncaster.

1.00 **Born Becker**, A Profile. Documentary about the career of the current Wimbledon champion.

1.30 **Terraheaven**, Sci-fi animation.

2.00 **Film: Blonde** Plays *Clash* (b/w 1940). Glenn Ford stars as an sloper that Blondie and Dagwood try to help in this comedy based on the comic strip. Directed by Frank Strayer.

3.00 **International Athletics**, Live coverage of the England v Italy v Czechoslovakia men's international meeting at the Mountbatten Centre in Portsmouth. The event is part of the Women's International between England, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria.

5.00 **ITN News**, 5.05 **The Playhouse Show**.

5.35 **The Prince's Trust Rock Gala**, The Wembley concert includes performances from Eric Clapton, Curisio, Killed the Cat, Go West, Elton John, Ben E King and Alison Moyet.

7.05 **The Best of Bobby Dwyer**, Director of the Box. Compilation of some impressive moments from the first series.

8.50 **Film: Death Stalks the Detective** (1958). Made for television film starring Angela Lansbury as the author and amateur detective, Jessica Fletcher. Directed by Seymour Robbie.

9.15 **ITN News**.

10.00 **Return of the private eye drama series** *Inspector Morse* (See Ch. 2).

10.30 **The Late Cive James**, Tonight's guests are Alan Coren and Edwin Currie.

11.15 **ITN News** followed by **First AIDS** Mike Smith is joined by rock stars, comedians and medical experts to discuss the AIDS situation (1). Ends at 12.45.

9.25 *Pets in Peril* (r).
9.30 *Movieposter* (r).
9.35 *Living Single* (r).
10.45 *The Spider - A*
 Television History tells the story of the USA from 1776 to 1850 (r).
11.15 *Dr. Quinn*
 Brazilian drama serial (r).
12.10 *Century on the Crag*.
 Documentary about rock climbing (r).
1.10 *World of Animation*
 Includes *Springfield* (r).
1.40 *Film: The Awful Truth* (b/w 1937).
 Comedy with Cary Grant and Irene Dunne as the divorcing couple who can't live without each other. Directed by Leo McCarey.
3.20 *Film: My Girl Friday* (b/w 1940).
 Howard Hawks' fast-moving comedy stars Cary Grant as the newspaper's managing editor and Randolph Scott as the reporter who gets tricked into covering just one more story.
5.05 *Brookside: Omnibus*
 Version (Oracle) (r).
6.00 *Right to Reply*.
 Criticism and defence of Channel 4's *Power in the Land*.
6.30 *Ourselves and Other Animals*. The different ways animals communicate to hunt.
7.00 *Myths and weather* followed by *The Gods of War*.
 Professor Mackay asks Charles R McDonald, Secretary General of the National Spiritual Assembly of Baha'is, whether war plays any part in their formula for peace.
7.30 *Barbarian Film*.
 A review of Afro-Asian current affairs magazine with a tribute to imprisoned ANC leader Nelson Mandela and a report on Racism Awareness Training.
8.30 *Robinson Country*.
 Robert Robinson asks whether our vision of the countryside is really a fantasy (Oracle).
9.00 *Nights and Day*.
 Continuing the story of a Polish family from the 1863 uprising to the First World War.
10.00 *Golf: The US Open*.
 Coverage from San Francisco of the last stage of the third round.
12.00 *Don't Miss Wax*.
 Ruby gets obsessive with Spike Milligan, Richard O'Sullivan and others.
12.45 *Film: Mosterata the Vampire* (1979).
 Werner Herzog's remake of the 1922 classic horror film starring Klaus Kinski. *Count Dracula*.
 Ends at 2.35.

6.45 Open University.
8.55 Playhouse 85
Articles of Faith (r). 9.30
This is the Day.
10.00 The Coming of Age
reports on home helps (r).
10.30 The Good Computer
Investigates the use of
computers in
education.
10.55 Bike Brothers. The
specialist bikes of Jack,
Kan and Norman
Taylor (r). 11.20 You in
Mind. The benefits of
attention to adjust to
sudden change (r).
11.30 The Goodie Kitchen.
Pastas, purses and
punch (r). 11.45
Discovering Portuguese
(r). 12.10 See Hear.
Magazine programme for
deaf and hard of
hearing.
12.35 Farming. 12.35
Weather for Farmers.
1.00 News.
1.05 Bonanza (r). 1.55 Tom
and Jerry. Cartoon.
2.00 EastEnders. Omnibus
edition (Ceefax).
3.00 The Further
Adventures of the
Wilderness Family
(1978). Director Frank
Zuccarini uses wildlife
footage mixed with
dramatic action to
depict the hazards of
winter in the Rocky
Mountains as
experienced by the
family Robinson.
4.40 The Pink Panther
Show. Three cartoons (r).
5.00 Start in the Park.
Highlights of yesterday's
St John Ambulance
Brigade centenary
celebrations.
5.50 The Desmond
Roadshow with Desmond
Morris and Sarah
Kennedy visits Oxford
(Ceefax).
6.25 News and weather.
6.40 Praise Be! with Thora
Hart (Ceefax).
7.15 Anzac Part three of
the drama tracing
Australia's
involvement in the First
World War finds the
soldiers near exhaustion
(r) (Ceefax).
8.50 Brenda and Carla Lane's
comedy series about the
Boswell family (r).
9.20 That's Life! Presented
by Esther Rantzen.
9.05 News and weather.
10.20 Choices. Rabbi Julia
Neuberger chairs a studio
discussion on
forgiveness as it applies
to crime.
11.00 The Royal
International Horse Show
David Vine introduces
coverage of the final
event in the final night
from Birmingham.
12.15 Weather and
closedown.

6.50 Open University:
Maths 7.15 Special
Education in Norway
7.40 Experiments
Philosophy 8.30
Geology of the Alps (2)
8.45 Pure Maths
Group Actions 9.20 The
Victorian High Church
9.45 Social Integration:
Children's TV 10.10
Movement and the
School 10.35 Maths:
Networks and Matrices
11.00 Introduction to
Calculus 11.25 Evolution
by Natural Selection
11.50 Maths Methods
Numerical Solutions
12.45 Biology:
Cardiovascular
Control 12.40 Water for
City: Nottingham 1.05
The Curriculum: Hensel
and Gensel.

1.30 Sunday Grandstand
introduced by Steve
Ryder. The line-up is
(subject to alteration):
1.30 Show jumping
from the Royal
International Horse
Show in Birmingham.
2.30 and 5.00
Cricket - Derbyshire v
Gloucestershire in the
League Assurance
League. 3.45
Athletics - GDR v USSR
in the European Cup.
6.30 Motor Racing - the
top three laps from the
1987 Detroit Grand Prix.

6.55 The Money
Programme. Report on
Britain's funeral
industry which is
undergoing the
biggest upheaval in its
history as three major
companies battle to take
over the small family
businesses which still
dominate the scene.

7.30 Cardiff Singer of the
Worlds. The final sees the
winners of the
preliminary rounds
competing for the
Cardiff Crystal award.
The BBC Welsh
Symphony Orchestra are
conducted by Richard
Armstrong and Owain
Arwel Hughes.

9.20 Theatre Night: The
Czechoslovak Party
Plowright, Kenneth
Cranham, Harold Pinter,
Colin Blakely, Robert
Lang and Julie Walters
perform this version of
Pinter's play (See Choice)
(Ceeleax).

11.10 Grand Prix. The 1987
Formula One
Championships from
Detroit. Last year's
winner was Ayrton
Senna but Britain's Nigel
Mansell may be in with
a chance. Murray Walker
and James Hunt are
the commentators. Ends
at 11.50.

7.65 TV-am: Sunday Comments.

7.00 Are You A Doctor Yet? 7.25 WAC Extra.

8.30 David Frost on Sunday.

9.25 Wake Up London. Rabbit R. Dicks in Epping Forest. 9.30 Disney's The Wuzzles. Cartoon (r).

10.00 Get Fresh going on a diet with music from Cusinsy Killed the Cat.

10.30 The Adventures of Ricki Beverly (r).

11.00 Morning Wibble from Westbury-on-Trym.

12.00 Jobswatch visits a workshop where young designers can turn their ideas into marketable products.

12.30 Easy. How to successfully return faulty goods to a shop.

1.00 Police Five. 1.15 The Smurfs (r). 1.30 Link. Demonstrates a device which turns dirt into brickle.

2.00 Thy Kingdom Come. With Walter Swales.

2.30 LWT News followed by Film: A Hole Lot of Trouble (1989) Comedy starring Arthur Luhrs the baddy upset by some women, directed by Francis Safer.

3.00 Film: Quid (1985) Peter Butterworth stars in this short comedy about a chaotic village wedding, directed by Gerard Bryan.

3.30 International Athletics. Coverage of the largest half marathon road race from Newcastle to South Shields, 20,000 people are expected to participate.

4.30 The Honeyeater.

5.00 Show Me, Games show hosted by Joe Brown.

5.30 Hart to Hart (r).

6.30 ITN News. 6.40 Highway. Harry Secombe visits the Isle of Man.

7.15 Terry's Frame Game. Game show for couples.

7.45 Flying Lady. Starring Frank Windsor. Why was An Edie returned to Yorkshire? (Oracle).

8.45 ITN News. 9.00 Floodtide Drama serial about the unusual circumstances surrounding the death of a cabinet minister(Oracle).

10.00 Man on the Screen. A computer genius is accused of a murder he cannot remember committing. (Oracle)

11.00 LWT News followed by The Sift.

11.55 Derrick. Garmen detective series. Ends 1.00.

9.25 **Sarah.** Third of this four-part musical about the life of the English pianist.

10.00 **Handstand Film (r).**

11.00 **Cartoon Carnival** introduced by Ray Alan and Lord Charles.

11.30 **The Owl Service (r).**

12.00 **Network 7** features Ben Elton and Echo and the Bunnymen; plus a review of the Glasbury CND Festival.

2.00 **The Pocket Money Programme.** The children's guide to getting value for money, presented by children, includes explanations about labelling of food by manufacturers and company shares.

2.30 **Film: Walk, Don't Run (1956)** Comedy set in Tokyo during the 1934 Olympics starring Cary Grant as the match-making diplomat. Starring Egan and Jim Hutton are the couple he tries to get together. Directed by Charles Walters.

4.30 **Woody Woodpecker.** Cartoon. **4.40** **Hazel's Children** focusses on photography.

5.30 **News and Weather**, followed by **Too Hot to Handle.** William Woolard presents the first of two programmes which examine nuclear power, revised since their first showing to include the results of the Sizewell inquiry and a reaction to Chernobyl. The first explains what radioactivity is (r).

6.15 **TV Series: Power Series 1987.** The best reviews from the West of England and Wales compete on the River at Evesham Mike Morris, Steven Redgrave and Daniel Topolski are the presenters.

7.00 **Challenge to Sport.** Handball video (r).

7.15 **The Struggles of Poland.** Susannah York narrates the third in a series of programmes about Jewish life in Poland between 1919 and 1943 (Oracle).

8.15 **Man and Music: Classical Vienna.** Bamber Gascoigne presents a documentary about the final years of Mozart's life and attempts to discover why he died with little but debts when he had composed so many masterpieces.

9.15 **Porterhouse Blue (r)** (Oracle).

9.45 **Golf: The US Open.** Ends 12.30.

Radio 3

1.5. All programmes are on
VHF and MW except **Test
Match Special**, on
MW only, from **10.55am to
6.35pm**

6.35 Open University.
Education: skinheads

6.55 Weather: 1.00 News

7.05 Morning Concert: Saint-
Saens (Bacchante, Samson
and Delilah: Paris
Orchestra); Sullivan (Cello
Concerto in D: Webber,
with LSO); Lambert
(Horoscope ballet suite:
LSO). **1.00 World Service
News**

8.10 Concert (cont'd): William
Lloyd Webber (Aurora: LPO).
Mendelssohn (Concert

Radio 2

0.05 minor Op 79 No 2: Bishop-Kovacevich, piano), Van Bree (Allegro for four string quartets: Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields, London) **News Recordings** Includes Lionel Seltzer's guide to recordings of Bech's St John Passion.

0.15 Stereo Release: Verdi (Il poveretto): Stomello; Avo (L'aria di Maria, soprano); Poulenc (Fanciulles pour rire: Mespici, soprano); Weil (I'm a stranger here myself and other songs (Tarses Stratas, soprano) **BBC SO in Bergamo:**

0.55 With

Olga Kagan (violin).
Brahms (Academic Festival
Overture, and Violin
Concerto), Mussorgsky
(Pictures from an
Exposition), L.A. News
1.05 *Kyoto Takazawa:* the
violinist in recordings of
Tchaikovsky's *Walse*
scharzo, Tsayee's *Sonata No*
3, and *Chalkovsky's*
Serenade melancholic,
and Brahms's *Sonata No 3* in
D minor
2.00 *For all violonists:* J. C.
Bach's dramatic cantata.
Sung in Italian. Norling
Simfonia, Simfonia Chorus
and soloists Patricia
3.00 *Elizabeth Danley*
Eugen Jochum
Conducts: Schubert's
Symphony No 5
(Gavarni HSO), Reger's
Serenade Op 85
(Amsterdam Concert
gebouw), and Act 1 of
Weber's *Der Freischütz*.
4.00 *Record Reviews:*
with Peter Clayton
4.45 *Critics' Forum:* topics
include the Radio 3
production of *Richard*
Francisco's Kepler, and the
Fonroberts film
Chronicle of a Death
Foretold.
5.30 *Great Piano Music:*
Daniel Adini plays *Lyric*
Pieces Op 12, and *Seven*
Stimmungen, Op 73
6.10 *Interview:* with a
Star: talk about the Third.

Reich by Peter Pulzar,
 Gladstone Professor of
 Government, University
 of Oxford
7.30 Almeida Festival 1987.
 The works are by Hanns
 Eisler. The songs include
 some representing Eisler's
 lifelong collaboration
 and friendship with Bertolt
 Brecht, performed by Die Rote
 Ensemble and the Almeida
 Ensemble. With Heinz
 Zeman (bass, conductor)
 and Rainer Keuschig
 (piano/harpichord). During
 the interval, at #44a,
 discussion about Eisler and
 the theatre of the 20s
 and 30s.
8.50 Part two of the Eisler
 evening (simultaneous
 with #44b)
10.00 After School: Sam
 Dastor reads the story by
 Eugene Dubnov.
10.10 *Die Sinfonia*, under
 Erich Schmidt. Mozart
 (Idomeneo overture),
 Haydn (Symphony No 60),
 Strauss
 (Metamorphosen)
11.15 Paula: Howard Shelley
 (piano) plays Mazurka in B
 flat op 42, Impromptu in
 A flat op 34 No 1,
 Nocturnes in E flat minor
 op 33 No 1, in B, op 33 No
 2, and in A flat op 34 No
 3. Nocturne in E flat op
 36 No 4
11.57 News **12.00** Closesdown

HF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF feeds on the half hour until 1.30am, then at 2.30, 3.30, 4.30, 5.30, 6.30 and 12.00 Midnight
10.00am Mike Page 5.00 **Peter Powell** 10.00 **Mike Read** 12.30
Sunday Live 1.00 **John Peel** 1.30
Janis Savile's Old Record Club top 10s from 1985, 1979 and 1975
1.30-2.00pm **The Sunday Evening** **Blastrocity Festival** 3.30 **Radio 1** 4.00
More Time 4.00 **Charbursters** 5.00
Up to 40.700 Anne Nightingale
Request Show 5.00 **Radio 1** 5.30
10.00am **Mike Page** 5.00 **Peter Powell** 10.00 **Mike Read** 12.30
The Ranking Stars P (Culture Rock), **WHF Stereo** 2.00pm 1 and 2: 4.00am **As Radio 2**
2.00pm Benny Green 3.00 **Alan Parker** 3.30
Something Simple 5.00 **As Radio 1** 5.30
12.00-4.00am **As Radio 2**

Radio 2

HF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF feeds on the hour (except 1.00pm), Crickets Scoreboard

1.00pm Dave Bussay 6.00 **Steve Ruatlove** 7.30 **Rory Royce** says **Noct Morning Sunday** 9.05
10.00am **You (BBC) Country Orchestra** 1.00 **Dennis Harrington** 2.00pm **Stuart Hall's Sunday Sport** 3.30 **Charlie Chester** 4.00
Sunday Soapbox 7.35 **Ken Barrington** 8.00
10.00am **Billie Jean King** 11.00 **David Williams** 5.30 **Sunday Half Hour** from Parish Church of St James, Great Grimsby 6.00 **Your Hundred Hours** 7.00
10.00am **Johnnie Carson** 11.00 **Shows** 10.30 **Jazz Includes Brian Auger & Trinity** 11.00

6.35 Open University. Nuclear proliferation
6.55 Weather 7.40 News
7.05 Abel, J C and the Friends: *Abel (Symphony in E flat Op No 3; Toronto CO)*, *Bach (Symphony in G minor Op No 1; Netherlands CO)*, *Ame (Sonata No 3 in G; Hogwood, harpsichord)*, *Hellendall (Concerto in E flat Op No 4; English Concert)* *Avison (Trio-Sonata in C, Op No 5; 2 London Baroque)*. £.00
World Service News
8.10 *Lu Gossens: the oboist in recordings of Vaughan Williams's Concerto in A minor for oboe and string orchestra*, *J S Bach's Concerto in A for oboe d'amore and orchestra*, *Elgar's Schloßkapelle for oboe, string orchestra*, *Templeton (Sonata caprice; with Moore, piano)*. £.00 News
8.05 *Ysaac: Concerto Chacon: Haydn (Symphony No 46: Philharmonia Hungarica)*, *Brühns (Alto recorder)*, *Luxon (violin)*, *micro: (Saubert) (Fantasia in F minor, Op 940: Paralia and Luxon, piano duet)*, *Ruggero (Fantasia: Alfredo Pizzetti)*, *Mozart (Trio: Soave and Luxon)*, *Coel fan flute*, *Schwartzkopf, Ludwig and Berry, Navel (Mother*

Goose suite: Los Angeles PO
10.30 Music Weekly: includes a conversation with the pianist John Brown.
11.15 Cello and piano:
 Raphael and Peter
 Wolfshinck, Suk (Baldade
 Op 3),
 Kenneth Leighton
 (Altezza Pasca No 2),
 Martini (Sonata No 2)
12.15 In the Philharmonie
 under Karajan, Mozart
 (Divertimento in B flat K
 247), Brahms (Symphony No
 1.40) **Garrick Ohlsson:** piano
 recital. Haydn (Sonata in B
 minor, H.XVI 32; and
 Variations in F minor, H.
 30), Beethoven (Sonata
 in A, Op 2 No 3)
2.30 Opera in the Third Reich:
 Rudolf Wagner-Regeny's
 three-act opera *The
 Jura of Calais*. Sung in
 English. Simon Joy
 conducts Glynedebourne
 Festival Chorus, BBC
 Chorus and BBC Concert
 Orchestra. Cast includes
 John Connell, Marie
 Storch.
4.55 **Heath and David:** David
 Heath and Gillian Tingay.
 Includes Milner's Haru
 no Umi (See in Spring);
 Ramsey; William
 Adams; Naudes; Ibert's
 Entr'acte.
5.30 Talking to itself: Douglas
 Kennedy's investigation into

the theatre in Ireland.

1.15 Edith Vogel plays
Brannin, *Thrae Intermezzi*
Op 117, *Ready or Not*
Op 118, *Four*
Op 73 No 1, *Four*
Pieces, Op 119

1.30 BBC Philharmonic under
Paavo Berglund, with Nigel
Stevenson (violin). Part
one, *Stravinsky (Scherzo a
la russe)*, Britten (*Violin
Concerto*)

1.35 Advertisement for Life:
Adam Czerniewski's
war-time memories of
Palestine

1.40 Concert: Part two,
Symphony (Symphony No 2)

2.00 Aulduborn Festival 1987:
part one, *From Snape*
Histories, Ravel
(*Maestros naturels*:
Georg de la Nuist,
Sarañ Walker (mezzo), John
Shirley-Cook (bass),
Kun Woo Park (piano),
Robert Bedford (piano))

2.45 Letter from New York
told by Denis Donoghue.

3.00 Aulduborn Festival: part
two, *Concerto* (Fantasy
on Gerstner's *Porgy* and
Bess for two pianos). Also
Gerstner works
including *The man I love*,
and *Lordie*

3.00 Bournemouth
Symphonietta, with Christian
Schnitzler (piano),
Mozart (*Piano Concerto No*
20), and Haydn's
Symphony No 87

3.57 News **12.00** *Closedown*

Love 3.00-4.00 A

(long wave). (s) Stereo on VHF

**Currie, Jonathon Porritt
and Rabbi Julia Neubeurger.**

8.30 and Grace Nichols
Baker's Dozen: Richard
Baker with a group

WORLD SERVICE

LF (long wave). (s) Stereo on
VHF
5.55 Shipping 6.00 News

1.00 The World This Weekend. **1.55** Shipping.
2.00 News: Gardeners'

Keepers of the Dead. By Susan Hill. 199. Pp. 208. \$14.95. (Doubleday)

7.09 Twenty-Four Hours
Own Correspondence

- .05 **5:55 Weather**, Travel and News
- .06 **Today**, and **7:30, 8:00**
- .06 **Today**, and **7:30, 8:00**
- .06 **8:30 News 7:40, 8:47**
- .06 **Their's Papers 7:46 In Perspective 7:55, 8:58**
- .06 **Weather**, Travel **8:25 The Weeklies**
- .06 **News**
- .06 **Sport on 4**
- .06 **Breakaway**, Travel and News
- .06 **News**; Loose Ends, Ned Sherrin and guests
- .06 **Talking Politics**, Hugo Young looks ahead to the politics of the new Parliament. With John Lloyd, Peter Jenkins and Charles Moore
- .06 **From Our Own Correspondent**
- .06 **The Weekend on 4**
- .06 **News**; Money and the Question of Money. The team answer questions on personal finance put by listeners in Norwich
- .06 **12:27** **News**; A Minute with Bill Williams, with Kenneth Williams, Derek Nimmo, Peter Jones, Clement Freud
- .06 **News** 12:55 **Weather**
- .06 **News**

- explores the world of public speaking
- 2.30 The Afternoon Play.** Myths and legends by Peter Windear. With Rosalie Crutchley, Daniel Massey, Patrick Stewart (s)
- 3.00 News: International Assignment.** BBC correspondents report from around the world.
- 3.30 SD (Science on the Screen)** **Science Events** with highlights of recent research in science, medicine and technology
- 4.00 The Living World.** The waters and flood meadows of Amberley, Sussex
- 4.25 Week Ending, Saturday review.** £5.50 Shipping + s.s
- 5.00 News: Travel**
- 5.30 News: Sports round-up**
- 6.00 Stop the Week with Robert Robinson.** (s)
- 6.30 Sunday Night Theatre.** To See Ourselves, by Ivor Wilson. With Nigel Anthony as the polytechnic lecturer. Since John becomes a nightmarer (s)
- 6.15 Moments Into Poetry.**

9.50 Tem to Ten. A reading
Bennett
Weather

10.00 News

10.15 Saturday Feature. So-
cialist Civilization. Nigel
Barley Talks to four
Indonesians who have left
their ancient tribe and
village life to be confronted
with our high-tech
civilization (s)

10.45 Flashback. Novelist
Joseph Hone recalls his
time in Egypt at the
Pharos necropolis

11.00 The Wordsmiths at
Gorsemead. Sue Lumb's
soap opera about
the gentrification of the Lake
District at the turn of the
18th century (s)

11.30 The Party Party (s).
Political comedy

12.00 News; Weather;
VNF (available in England and
South Wales only) as above
except 5.50-6.00pm: News; Weather;
Travel 1.00-1.30pm; 2.00pm
News 4.00-6.00pm Options: 4.00
The Angry Decade, (4) 4.30 The

[illegible]

7.00 News 7.10 Sunday
Papers 7.15 Waterlilies
(Cliff Michelmore) 7.40
Sunday. (Religious news
and views) 7.55
Weather. Travel.
8.00 News 8.10 Sunday
Papers
8.30 The Week's Good
Cause. Appeal by David
Sheppard. 8.55
Weather. Travel
9.00 News
9.10 Sunday Papers
9.15 Letter From America by
Alastair Cooke. (2000th
edition) (r)
9.30 Moving Service from
St Magnus Cathedral,
Kirkwall, Orkney
10.15 The Archers
11.15 Pick of the Week.
Margaret Howard's
selection (s)
12.10 Alastair Cooke's
Transatlantic Call A chance
to hear and talk to
Cooke on the line from New
York on 01-580 4411.
12.55 Weather

| | | |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| | Comedy by Christina Rao (S). | |
| 9.30 | Origins. Berry Cunliffe traces the development of civilisation on the banks of the Nile (4). | 1 |
| 9.50 | News; The Food Programme. | 1 |
| 9.50 | The Natural History Programme. Whale biologists. | 1 |
| 9.00 | News; Travel. | |
| 9.00 | 8 Tales of Araby. Recollections of British people who once lived and worked in the Arabian Peninsula. 5.50 | 1 |
| 9.00 | Weather. 5.55 | 1 |
| 9.00 | News | 1 |
| 9.15 | Feedback. Christopher Dunkley follow up listeners' comments about BBC and its programmes. | 1 |
| 9.30 | Instruments of Torture. The Importance of Being Boring. The Symphony of the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra. | 1 |
| 9.00 | East Lynne. By Mrs Henry Wood. (T2) | C |

and Roy Porter.

00 News: Georgs Gershwin, by Alstair Cooke. (2 Early Successes.)

30 Law in Action (new series) 9.55 Weather.

00 News.

15 Victoria (new series). With Anna Massey as Queen Victoria (r).

00 Seeds of Faith. The Reform Experience (2) Return Judaism

15 Actuality. A hen party in Foot's Palace (with Frank Pearson, alias Foot's Lambs).

00 News: Weather. 7.30 Shipping.

HF (available in England and Wales only) as above. Price: £.55-£.00 am Weather, vel. 7.00-8.00 Open University Education 7.20 Milton's Paradise Lost 7.30 The Reluctant Hero 4.00-6.00 Options: 4.00 Dining with Drugs 4.30 Education near 5.00 Out in the Immunity 5.30 Get by in Arabic

3: 1215x37(247m)-VHF-90-0195 R: BBC Radio 4

Regional TV: on facing page

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1:1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m;VHF-90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m: VHF-92-95; LBC:1152kHz/261m: VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF95.8; BBC Radio London: 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service: MF 648kHz/483m.

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1758.3 (-24.8)FT-SE 100
2266.1 (-27.1)Bargains
40214 (49867)USM (Datastream)
191.65 (+0.01)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6160 (-0.0115)W German mark
2.9549 (-0.0128)Trade-weighted
72.5 (-0.2)

Slump in profits at Renold

Renold, the Manchester engineering group which suffered a boardroom shakeout last year, yesterday announced full-year pretax profits down from £7.6 million to just £100,000.

The results were fore-shadowed even before the interim figures in November, and represent a break-even position in the second half. The company said "a return to profits is expected in the 1987/8 year". Turnover was down marginally at £128.4 million, in the figures for the period to March 28.

The company passed its interim dividend but is matching last year's final of 1.3p.

Tempus, page 27

Opax change

Norton Opax, the specialist printing group, yesterday outlined cost cutting measures and a reorganizational restructuring, which it controls. It also announced a change in its year end to September and pretax profits for the 12 months ended March of £10.3 million against £5.2 million. The second interim dividend is 3p.

Tempus, page 27

Figures delay

Trade figures for May, due to be published next week, will be delayed for a month because of industrial action at the customs and excise computer centre in Sheerness. The figures for June will also be delayed.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York
Dow Jones 2412.85 (+4.72)
Tokyo
Nikkei Dow 25288.12 (-462.43)
Hong Kong
Hang Seng 3165.64 (+31.90)
Amsterdam Gen 297.4 (-0.6)
Sydney AO n/a
Frankfurt
Commerzbank 1805.8 (+52.6)
Brussels
General 4674.7 (+0.4)
Paris CAC 4005.5 (-2.2)
Zurich S&K Gen 527.70 (+2.40)
London FT A 1137.25 (-11.98)
FT Gels 91.16 (-0.78)
Closing prices Page 29
Recent prices Page 26

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISERS:
Charter Cons. 440p (+12p)
F Copson 325p (+56p)
Oxford Inst. 380p (+11p)
ML Holdings 785p (+14p)
Jessups 198p (+7p)
CD Bramall 440p (+22p)
Lookers 383p (+20p)
Southern Stadium 550p (+35p)
Read Intl. 550p (+13p)
Stat-Plus Group 305p (+20p)
Burmah Oil 589p (+12p)
Real Time Control 155p (+27p)

FALLS:
Glaxo 1678p (-48p)
ICI 1424p (-20p)
BP Inds. 625p (-15p)
MK Electric Group 478p (-15p)
Argyll Group 478p (-15p)
Kwik Save Group 388p (-25p)
Dee Corp. 232p (-17p)
Sainsbury 582p (-13p)
Prices are as at 4pm

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 9%
3-month interbank 8 3/4%
3-month eligible bills 8 1/4%
buying rate
US: Prime Rate 8 1/4%
Federal Funds 6 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills 5.65-5.64%
30-year bonds 103 1/4-103 1/2%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£ \$1.6160
£ DM2.9549
£ Sfr12.4547
£ FFfr9.8576
£ Yen234.24
£ Index 72.5
ECU £0.70075 SDR £0.788432

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$452.25 pm \$449.00
close \$449.25-449.75 (\$277.50-278.00)
New York:
Comex \$446.20-446.70

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (July) pm \$19.00pb (\$18.97)
 Denotes latest trading price

Stock Market 26 Comment 27
Wall Street 26 Unit Trusts 28
Money Markets 26 Commodities 28
Foreign Exch 26 USM Prices 28
Alpha Stocks 26 Share Prices 29
Traded Opns 26

Lloyds pulls out of gilts
Overcrowding prompts bank to withdraw

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Lloyds Bank yesterday became the first market-maker to withdraw from the gilt-edged market since it was restructured last October. The bank is also withdrawing from dealing in the Eurobond market.

In a terse statement, Lloyds said that both markets were overcrowded and that it had decided to reallocate the resources employed in these activities to opportunities which promised a better return on capital. The capital released from the gilts operation is £25 million. About £50 million is tied up in Eurobond trading.

The gilts market has a daily turnover of up to £5 billion of which Lloyds has a 2 to 3 per cent market share.

The move came as little surprise to some in the gilt market who said that Lloyds seemed to have experienced problems in its gilt trading for some time. But the 27 primary market-makers appointed by the Bank of England last year were widely regarded as too many for operators to make worthwhile profits and observers have been waiting for the first casualties.

Mr Brian Pitman, Lloyds' chief executive, said that there had been no material trading losses in either market this year and the decision to pull out had been purely strategic. The profit from both activities had been "negligible", he said.

Both operations involved substantial running costs. Apart from substantial start-up costs on the gilts operation — contributing to an overall £27 million loss for Lloyds Merchant Bank — the gilts dealership involved £7 million a year in operating costs.

"There was just not enough profit in either market. We did not appreciate when we set up the gilts market-making arm how overcrowded and competitive the market would be. We have been in the Eurobond market for many years, but recently that too has become overcrowded, and with excess dealing capacity, the market has deteriorated."

As far as Eurobond trading was concerned, the market was now dominated by the Japanese and American securities houses and a few Continental European banks. British banks were at a disadvantage because British

investors did not buy many Eurobonds, Mr Pitman said.

Lloyds reported earlier this year that in 1986 it had suffered a loss of £2 million to £3 million in holdings of perpetual floating rate notes, a form of Eurobond. It also reported a £7 million trading loss in gilts. The operating costs of the gilts operation amounted to £7 million a year.

The withdrawal affects between 150 to 200 Lloyds employees, including back-up staff and the 50 employees directly involved in each market. They will be redeployed as far as possible, Mr Pitman said.

The Bank of England said that it was not concerned by Lloyds' withdrawal from the gilt market as long as this was conducted in an orderly manner.

Although Lloyds claims no substantial trading losses, market operators said its decision to withdraw from bond markets as economic forecasts become more gloomy. They said that many gilt operators had suffered heavy losses this year.

Backing for rescue formula heralds end of 'shameful chapter'



Peter Miller: 'important that Lloyd's could solve the problem'

Names support £134 million PCW package

By Joe Joseph

One of the blackest periods in the history of Lloyd's drew to a close yesterday when the insurance market declared it had received enough backing from underwriting names enmeshed in the PCW scandal to proceed with the £134 million rescue package it unveiled in April to try to resolve the affair.

Mr Peter Miller, the chairman of Lloyd's, said: "It is now possible to close this shameful chapter."

"I am very pleased indeed that the proposals put forward by Lloyd's to end this most difficult problem have been accepted by an overwhelming number of damaged names. While the claims on the policies still have to be met, the names who have assented will not be involved in any further problems."

The acceptance of the package ends years of uncertainty generated by the PCW scandal, which blew up in 1982 when it was discovered that the two founders of the PCW syndicates, Mr Peter Cameron-Webb and Mr Peter Dixon, had misappropriated £40 million of investors' money over a period of years.

"I think it is very important that Lloyd's was able and had the strength to solve this problem," Mr Miller said.

"It is a problem which had to be solved by Lloyd's if it was to retain both its self-confidence and public confidence in it as an effective self-regulatory body."

The rescue formula devised by Lloyd's, which is pressing ahead with civil actions against Mr Cameron-Webb and Mr Dixon, asks names to contribute £34 million towards the cost of meeting outstanding claims against PCW syndicates.

Lloyd's itself will put in £48 million, with the balance coming from companies which Lloyd's deems to be under a legal or moral responsibility to syndicate members. They include Minet Group, which owned the PCW underwriting agency, and Alexander & Alexander, through whose companies PCW funds were siphoned abroad.

After nine months of negotiations, Lloyd's calculated the likely gross liabilities of the syndicates affected to be £680 million. Taking account of assets, including insurance recoveries, the net liability is reduced to £235 million. The £134 million needed now is to meet present and future liabilities of the PCW syndicates.

The deadline for acceptance closed yesterday. It will be a

few days before the final tally is known, but the decision by Lloyd's to declare its offer unconditional suggests it has received the backing of 90 per cent of the names involved, the level needed to go ahead with the plan.

Lloyd's accepts that a caucus of the worst hit names, some of whom face bills of more than £240,000, will refuse. Some have already threatened to take their grievances to court.

But Mr Miller is offering no fresh sweeteners to win round dissenters and added that Lloyd's would defend any legal actions with vigour.

He said: "We have made an offer after intensive negotiations with those representing the names and we have no intention of mounting another attack."

Mr Christopher Crosswaite, the solicitor who has been acting for the PCW 1985 Committee, which speaks for 450 of the hardest-hit victims of the non-marine syndicates, hailed yesterday as "the end of a long battle."

"The 1985 Committee has done its job. Its job was to get an offer which although unpleasant for some people was good for others."

Mr Miller gave warning that the penalties of not accepting the Lloyd's offer were stiff. Names who assent will not be liable for any unforeseen deterioration in the claims against the PCW syndicates, but, he said: "If you don't accept, you are a name against policies against which many people all over the world have claims."

It is understood that names who do not assent to the package run the risk of suspension from underwriting. They would also not be able to pass the solvency test required of names unless they put up assets that covered the whole of their losses from the stricken PCW syndicates. Some market sources suggest that even then it is doubtful whether such names would pass the solvency test.

Some aggrieved names say they are willing to pay their share, but are disputing what that share is. Mr Miller conceded that calculating the liabilities of the PCW syndicates had been a complex task.

He said: "The losses were underwritten losses. But you have fraud, and you have chaos which surrounds the fraud, which makes it impossible to apportion the losses correctly. 100 per cent, between the names involved."

Comment, page 27

Sterling and shares decline amid worries over inflation

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The pound, government stocks, and shares all fell sharply yesterday, on worries that the economy is overheating and inflation is heading higher.

The worries, which emerged with the simultaneous publication on Thursday of figures showing sharply falling unemployment, strong credit growth, rising output and an acceleration in earnings growth, continued yesterday.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, said in a BBC radio interview that wage rises are "faster than is comfortable" but he disputed predictions from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development of an acceleration of the growth in Britain's unit wage costs.

The nervous mood affected all the London markets yesterday. The FT 30 share index fell by 24.8 points to 1,758.3, having been down by more than 30 points at one stage.

The FT-SE 100 index closed 27.1 points down at 2,266.1.

Government stocks fell by more than a point, with dealers saying that, for the first time since "Big Bang" last October, many of the leading market-makers were considering going short on gilts.

"The gilt market is disappointed because there has been no foreign buying since the election, and because of

Market report.....26

the emergence of inflationary signs," said Mr John Shepperd, economist at Warburg Securities. "And the more the market has thought about that, the less it has liked it."

The pound ran into selling pressure against all currencies, falling by 1.15 pence to \$1.6160, and by 1.5 pence to DM2.9561. The sterling index fell by 0.2 of a point to 72.5.

"The pound is no longer a

fashionable currency," said one foreign exchange dealer, "suddenly everyone is a seller."

In the money markets, interest rates firmed again, with the disappearance of hopes of an early base rate cut. The three-month interbank rate rose by a quarter of a point, to close at 9 1/4 per cent, the first time it has been above 9 per cent for several weeks.

The interest rate on the weekly Treasury bill tender rose from 8.4431 per cent last week to 8.7239 per cent yesterday.

"Very few people are now looking for a base rate reduction," said Mr Stephen Lewis, director of economic research at Phillips & Drew. "The next move will be upwards. Sterling is showing signs of fragility, although the authorities have quite a lot of ammunition in the reserves, and they may be able to put off a rate increase for some time."

Interest rate cut 'would be foolish'

By Our Economics Correspondent

The Governor of the Bank of England, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, yesterday signalled clearly that he would like interest rates to stay at present levels.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton, in a speech to the Engineering Employers' West Midlands Association in Birmingham, said it would be foolish to take risks by lowering interest rates "prematurely or excessively."

His remarks, which mesh in with the Bank of England's tactics in holding down sterling through currency intervention rather than further interest rate cuts, will be seen in the City as removing any remaining hopes of lower base rates in the short term.

"As to the present interest rate structure we need to keep it in mind that profits are also high, as are equity prices. Prospective returns on real investment are more favourable, relative to those on

financial assets, than for a good number of years.

"It would surely be foolish to put that favourable conjuncture at risk by lowering interest rates prematurely or excessively. We might enjoy a short-term boost to activity, but at the risk of a damaging return to the uncertainty and the acrimony of high inflation."

The Governor made it clear that he was aware of the concerns about emerging inflationary pressures which have worried the City.

"While retail price inflation has been dramatically reduced, from 10 per cent in 1982 to 4 per cent today, it remains above the rate in most of our major competitor countries. And upward pressures on costs remain — the growth in average earnings in the whole economy is well in excess even of our improved productivity performance."

Sainsbury takes over US supermarket firm

By Ray Heath

J Sainsbury, the supermarket group, has taken full control of Shaws Supermarkets, the American retailing group, in which it had a 28.5 per cent holding.

The deal could cost the British group up to \$261 million (£132 million).

Mr Ewan Davidson, Sainsbury's treasurer, said the bid reflected the company's long-term strategy of reducing dependence on British food retailing.

Ruling out further immediate expansion in the US, Mr Davidson said that Sainsbury would concentrate its attention on Shaws, which runs 49 supermarkets in New England.

Sales in 1986 were \$1.1 billion, profits were \$31.1 million.

Sainsbury's has bought a 20.2 per cent holding from the controlling Davis family for \$30 a share, or \$76.5 million, and is making a tender offer for the remainder at \$30.

It is guaranteed 74 per cent of the supermarket group, which will cost \$184.4 million. Acceptances of 100 per cent would cost \$261 million.

To meet the cost Sainsbury's has allotted 20.179 million Sainsbury's shares to Warburg Securities, so raising \$188 million. Additional costs will be met by borrowings or a further placing.

Societies' receipts drop as home loans top £3bn

By Peter Gartland, Family Money Editor

Building societies had another difficult month in May, The Building Societies Association reported yesterday.

Withdrawals amounted to £6,939 million, although savers deposited a total of £7,460 million. This left net receipts of £521 million compared with £727 million for April.

The societies' figures were further squeezed by a continuing high level of new mortgage commitments, which exceeded £3 billion for the third consecutive month. The situation was eased, however, by a net inflow of £317 million from the wholesale money markets, through sources such as Eurobonds.

Mr Mark Boleat, BSA direc-

\$1,000 billion budget compromise a 'pickpocket spending plan'

Dispute threatens US deficit cuts

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The White House decision to attack the Democratic budget compromise negotiated after a six-week stalemate has led to an acrimonious debate which could jeopardize prospects for substantive deficit reduction this year.

An aide to Mr Robert Byrd, the Senate majority leader, said yesterday that if the White House persisted in "drawing political battle lines over the deficit," the process would fall apart and the deficit would remain unsustainably high, in the \$185 billion (£111 billion) range.

European officials gave warning, both at the Venice economic summit and in a recent OECD report, that without substantive reduction in the United States' deficit, the world economy remained at risk. President Reagan reiterated this concern in a televised address to the nation but he rejected appeals by Congressional leaders for a budget summit to reconcile differences.

White House officials acknowledged yesterday that the President has rejected a bipartisan solution in the near term, preferring instead to launch a political



Wright: attacked Reagan's 'diatribes'

offensive on military spending and taxes, which is likely to carry through to the 1988 presidential campaign.

Administration officials attacked the compromise \$1,000 billion budget as a "pickpocket spending plan". Mr Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, said the President "is not buying it". Other White House officials said no negotiations with Congress are planned.

The new budget, approved by Democratic Congressional officials included \$19.3 billion in new, unspecified taxes, a \$16 billion cut in President Reagan's request for military spending in addition to domestic spending cuts for social programmes of \$11 billion. There are other savings envisioned in the document but the central themes are modest tax increases and military spending cuts to reduce the 1988 fiscal deficit by \$36 billion.

President Reagan, who had attacked Congress for failing to reach agreement on a budget, has ruled out all tax increases, including excise taxes on liquor and cigarettes which he has promised to veto. In addition, he has insisted that Congress allow his military build-up, to continue.

Mr James Wright, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, said in response to President Reagan's criticism: "It is disappointing and somewhat pathetic that the President chose to try to divert attention from the apparent lack of any real accomplishment at the economic summit by replaying his tired old diatribes against Congress."

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Fashion write-offs push up Stormgard loss to £4.26m

By Michael Tate

The misery continues at Stormgard — where Mrs Jennifer d'Abo was ousted from the board earlier this year — with a hefty £4.26 million loss in the year to end-March.

Mr Robin d'Abo, recently divorced from Mrs d'Abo, has lost his executive position on the board.

Lord Lever, the chairman and a former Labour minister, unveiling the preliminary results yesterday, told of continuing difficulties in the fashion sector of the group, but was forced to make large stock provisions.

He also announced that Mr d'Abo, who last week resigned from the board of Ryman, which is run by Mrs d'Abo, had "ceased to be an executive director of the company but will remain on the board as a non-executive director".

Group operating loss was £370,000 but net interest of £1.3 million and exceptional



Jennifer d'Abo: ousted from the board earlier this year

items of £3 million have swollen the pretax figure, which compared with a £734,000 profit last time.

The exceptional items consist largely of a £1.6 million stock provision, relating to the fashion sector of the group; £561,000 for reorganization

Merrymade interests, which, Lord Lever said, would have required considerable capital expenditure and offered only limited profit potential in the short term.

Lord Lever believes these disposals have strengthened the group's position for the longer term.

He said yesterday that actions taken since Stormgard was reversed into the Selincourt fashion business in July 1985 had reduced the group's borrowing requirements by £12.2 million.

He had given warning of difficult trading conditions being experienced by the fashion sector at the interim stage, when the company disclosed a pretax loss of £193,000. At the same time, he predicted the performance in the second half was not expected to improve significantly.

Stormgard turnover for the full year was £45.8 million against £42.0 million previously. There is no dividend.

Copson expands building interests

By Our City Staff

Mr Richard Thompson's transformation of F Copson & Co, the Birmingham builders' merchant where he took control last December, is gathering pace.

Yesterday he paid Ward White Group £2.9 million, including £940,000 of repaid borrowings, for LCP Building Supplies.

The deal will be financed by two share issues which, between them, will raise about £4.4 million.

The shares will be offered to existing shareholders as a three-for-five rights package but the 980,000 shares being created to pay the actual purchase price of £1.96 million have been conditionally placed.

Mr Thompson, son of Mr David Thompson, the founder of Hilldown Holdings, will take up the full entitlement accruing to his 50.1 per cent stake which, at 200p a share, will cost him just a little more than £2 million.

Part of the new money will be used to repay Building Supplies' loans from LCP Holdings, its former parent, with the rest going to the company's development.

This is the second disposal of an LCP offshoot by Ward White since it acquired the company for its car parts interests in December.

Mr Thompson also paid £200,000 for K&K Gordon, a Leicester builders' merchant, yesterday.

He said Copson now covered "most aspects of builders' merchanting".

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Japanese argosies not yet at London Wall

By the time it was delivered yesterday, the call by the Governor of the Bank of England, Robin Leigh-Pemberton, for caution in bringing down interest rates was hardly necessary. The last vestiges of pre-election expectations of further cuts disappeared as sterling ebbed, money market rates rose another 1/16 per cent to 8 7/8 per cent (three months interbank) and gilt-edged prices fell back for the second day running.

It is all a great contrast with market sentiment during the period between the Budget and the election. As the Governor remarked yesterday, the upward pressure on sterling then reflected "the market's reaction to a prudent budget, to a firm monetary policy; to the steadily improving prospects for the UK economy; and to the expected outcome of last week's election". What has changed?

In markets, to journey is better than to arrive, and although there were no unpleasant surprises for overseas investors in the election result, some speculative money may have left the currency to look for new plays. Otherwise, fundamental changes are difficult to find. There is no sign yet that the prudent borrowing levels fixed in the Budget will turn out any less prudent as the year draws on. Indeed, the negative public sector borrowing requirement for May suggests that public spending is for the time being well under control while revenue remains buoyant.

Bank lending, as Thursday's money figures reminded us, continues to be uncomfortably buoyant, though this was as true before the election as since. Massive intervention in the foreign exchange markets has also helped to swell the money supply, but there is no reason to suppose that this will not be offset by additional gilt sales during the remainder of the year. It would certainly be difficult to explain why current interest rates were too lax when two or three weeks ago they were, in the market's view, too tight.

Nor do prospects for the real economy seem to have taken an obvious turn for the worse. Unemployment is falling quite rapidly, but from such a high level that it is unlikely to lead to early overheating. The underlying rate of increase in average earnings edged up marginally last month from 7 1/2 per cent to 7 3/4 per cent as it did for a couple of months at the end of last year. Pay increases, as the Chancellor, Nigel Lawson, said yesterday, are higher than one would wish to achieve the maximum fall in unemployment; but as long as they are earned through higher productivity, they should not be inflationary.

The reaction in markets can be explained less through a deterioration in

the outlook for the economy than through short-term disappointment that the VLCCs full of yen, which were supposed to be anchored off North Foreland just waiting for the election result, have not yet docked. In these circumstances some investors have decided to take profits. Perhaps the Governor's message on interest rate caution was tailored more for his audience at the Engineering Employers' West Midlands Association than for financial markets.

Home if not dry

The overwhelming acceptance by names of Lloyd's solution to the PCW affair is a victory for common sense, prudence and pragmatism. It will enable members of the stricken PCW syndicates to look forward to a knowable if straitened future, and allow the market authorities to press ahead with two important tasks on an agenda that has for so long been overshadowed by PCW. They are to implement the outstanding Neil Committee recommendations, and then to modernize the market's internal systems in the interests of efficiency and profitability.

Inevitably some deep thinking will now take place about whether Lloyd's might do things a better way. The agonizing self-examination of the past few years, aided by the scrutiny of the Neil Committee, has already gone a long way towards making a reputation of PCW highly improbable.

Nevertheless, Lloyd's has been forced to a collective solution, rather than allowing the principle of unlimited liability to settle the affair. The Central Fund has been applied for purposes other than its most important one: ensuring that every bona fide claim on a Lloyd's policy will be met, regardless of the circumstances of the names on the policy. There will again be an airing of the idea of setting up a separate pool of cash to cover fraud, on the lines of the old Stock Exchange compensation fund. This might have greatly eased the solution to PCW, which was caused by a combination of fraud and questionable underwriting.

Given a central fund to protect the integrity of the Lloyd's policy, and a fraud fund to back it in cases of deliberate malfeasance, it would be possible to consider some limitation of liability for Lloyd's members. Already the principle of unlimited liability is somewhat theoretical, given PCW and other market rescues. In addition, most names ensure that some of their assets are transferred to their nearest and dearest in case the worst should befall them. The worst-hit PCW names would certainly find such reforms appealing.

Dalgety takes pigs to Denmark

By Colin Narborough

Dalgety, the food and commodities group, plans to take on the bacon-making, Danes on their own territory, using its high-performance British pig — the Camdor — as its main weapon.

The group's Pig Improvement Company, the world's leading pig breeder, is setting up a subsidiary at Silkeborg, in Jutland, with plans to sell Danish piglets some 25,000 hybrid gilts (females) a year by 1992.

The first batch of 200 genetically-improved pigs, worth £150,000, left PIC's headquarters, near Abingdon, Oxfordshire, yesterday for Denmark. Further shipments will ensure that Camdor herds are established in all the main pig-farming areas in Denmark.

The venture is a British "first". It took three years for PIC to obtain approval from the Danish veterinary authorities, which guard their country's piggeries and are

fully aware of their key role in Denmark's export trade.

All the herds established in Denmark will be run by PIC Denmark which will be responsible for breeding and marketing. PIC already exports to more than 30 countries and has 18 overseas subsidiaries.

Breeding the Camdor began 25 years ago, with Cambridge and Edinburgh universities providing the scientific advice. The aim was to produce a better bacon pig,

Mr Richard Robinson, PIC's European chief executive, said: "This is a real breakthrough. It has been particularly tough to crack, as the Danes believe their pigs are the best in the world."

He predicted that the Danish farmers would queue up to buy the Camdor once the breeding programme is under way. Last year, PIC exported 35,000 breeding pigs, worth about £4.3 million. Sales to British farmers exceeded this substantially.

CASE optimistic as losses fall to £5.4m

By Lawrence Lever

CASE Group, the supplier of data communications systems, yesterday reported reduced losses of £5.4 million before tax as against the previous year's £14.7 million loss.

The market reacted favourably to the results which were accompanied by an optimistic statement from Mr Duncan Fitzwilliams, the chairman. CASE's shares leapt 15p on the announcement to 126p.

The company made an operating loss of £1.2 million but this was increased by interest charges of almost £3 million and an exceptional item of £1.7 million. This latter comprised £1.3 million

worth of redundancy and restructuring costs plus a provision of £467,000 for a contractual dispute.

Trading losses from the company's United States operations were halved to £6 million while the company made a trading profit of almost £15 million in Britain, as against last year's £12.1 million.

Turnover was £93.6 million, slightly down on last year's £95.3 million, while the company spent £11 million on research and development, compared with £12.8 million. CASE is restoring its dividend, paying a final dividend of 0.1p.

Shell chief urges Britain to 'new industrial future'

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The chairman of Shell UK said yesterday that the time has now come for Britain to build a new industrial future based on highly trained people producing high-quality products.

Mr Bob Reid told members of the London Chamber of Commerce that after the Second World War, Britain had found it difficult to readjust.

He said the first 30 years of peace saw the battles of the industrial revolution fought out with the ferocity and self-destruction that blighted the hills of Gallipoli, and its impact on the world standing of Britain had been marked. "But slowly and surely it

has got home to the British people that the national imperatives have changed. Productivity is the key to overcoming international competition. Productivity comes from applying minimum resources to gain maximum production.

"Achieving the reduction in applied manpower resources has been a violent battle-ground, made worse by quantum leaps in technology, and leaving the human resource as the most feared blockage to economic progress."

Mr Reid said one of the most important concepts in helping managers was the adoption of the quality

management system. "It is exciting in that it can create the environment in which well-trained management can grow their businesses. In a way it is returning to the old days when half-marks were a guarantee of craftsmanship and quality."

"It is challenging, and potentially, it has the seeds of a second industrial revolution, but it must be built on a sound foundation of education, training and development. The time has come to take this challenge and build a new industrial and commercial future for Britain on highly trained people producing high-quality goods."

Atlantic's £9.6m buy

Atlantic Computers has acquired Hamilton Rentals for £9.6 million. The purchase price will be satisfied by the issue of 1.3 million Atlantic shares, all of which will be placed.

Hamilton, which specializes in renting out DEC, IBM and Hewlett-Packard computers and computer-based products, will be slotted into Atlantic's Computer Systems Develop-

ment company. This already markets DEC hardware and develops sophisticated manufacturing and distribution software.

It also has a short-term test equipment rental business and a specialized computer engineering facility. In the year to end-April, Hamilton made profits of £1.1 million on a £24 million turnover, 70 per cent derived in Britain.

Health Care rises 60%

Health Care Services, the private hospital and nursing-home group, raised profits by 60 per cent to £310,000 in the year to end-March. The group is confident of the future in view of what it calls the comparative underspending on health care in Britain.

The hospitals and homes division, which manages 145 acute and long-term beds, with a further 60 beds under

development, has significantly improved profits.

The group has, since the year-end, opened a laboratory in London which should have a significant impact on earnings.

Shareholders will receive a dividend of 0.9p per share and it is the board's intention to pay an interim dividend in February and a final in August.

TEMPUS

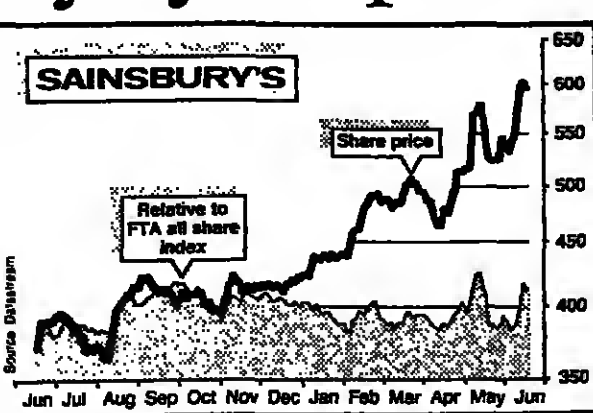
Sainsbury eyes up main street

British management success in the North American market has grown steadily — but not in retailing. For some reason even the cream of the British high street has failed to make it on main street, so yesterday's fall in the price of Sainsbury shares, on the news that it was hiding for control of Shaws Supermarkets, could be attributed to feelings of "Oh-oh! Here we go again!"

The reaction was unjustified. This is not another attempt to export inappropriate expertise to a market with plenty of its own. Nor does it signal a most un-Sainsbury-like bid to take a new market by storm.

Sainsbury first became involved with Shaws four years ago, and has had plenty of time to analyse its success. At first glance, it would appear that, given full control, Sainsbury's management should have no difficulty improving on the record.

The American company makes 2.85 cents on each dollar of sales, while Sainsbury earns 6.19p in the pound. The fundamental dif-



ference, however, is that Sainsbury owns its properties, and Shaws rents — so measured by return on capital employed, the US company leads with 32 per cent against Sainsbury's 26 per cent.

Yesterday's deal should be seen as part of a strategy that has already been laid down, and which recognizes that the British food market will be maturing fast in the early 1990s.

Sainsbury has already diversified into hypermarkets and do-it-yourself, and add-

ing an overseas arm, particularly in such a prosperous part of the US as New England, can be seen as an appropriate tactic.

The 20 million shares being issued to fund the cost should not prove a drag on Sainsbury's share price.

Renold

Just when you thought it had recovered, Renold, the Manchester engineering group, had a relapse. Profits have dwindled in almost nothing, and the company's tentative

venture into the hydraulic motor and robotics business has been aborted.

Last year the firm parted company with its chairman and managing director, and the new top brass are keen on making the company more marketing and sales led. It will be an uphill struggle.

Gearing at 67 per cent is high. Interest charges of £3.3 million wiped out virtually all the trading profits.

Against this, the management says that sales in its core businesses are up by between 4 per cent and 5 per cent. It has already introduced a number of cost-saving measures, including making 400 employees redundant. The redundancy programme plus write-offs accounted for an extraordinary charge of £2.9 million. The company does not expect any material provisions for next year.

Some analysts are guessing at about £4 million profit next year. This could produce earnings of about 4p after tax and stripping out minorities. With the shares hovering near 90p, the p/e ratio is a very high 20-plus.

The changed year-end is still a complication, though 12-month profits of £23 million to end-September are being pencilled in, with £29 million for the following year.

For Norton Opax there is still the Robert Maxwell factor (yesterday the Maxwell camp reorganized its 31.79 million share holding). Shareholders who have held on through the dull days should not lose patience.

Norton Opax will reward patience

Norton Opax certainly went through the mill in its controversial bid for McCorquodale, and though ultimately it should all prove worthwhile, the stock market is still suffering from indigestion.

Most figures for the period ended March look good enough — turnover 82 per cent higher, pretax profits doubled to £10.4 million and an improved dividend. But at the line that now concen-

trates shareholders' minds — net earnings a share — there is little to shout about: a modest 5 per cent increase.

Norton, already a poor performer relative to the market, has the potential to perform once the rationalization measures proposed to sort out McCorquodale start to work through. Overmanaging, both within its operations and including the board, is being tackled; the loss-making cheque machin-

ery subsidiary has been closed; and between £10 million and £15 million is expected from the disposal of its British publishing interests.

Anything to improve gearing, which reached 80 per cent at the time of the McCorquodale bid, is welcome, though it remains to be seen if the target of 50 per cent by September 30 is realized. The cry goes up from the market — no more paper, please.

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| No. | Company | Group | Code | Share |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------------|------|-------|
| 1 | Essex | Industrials E-K | | |
| 2 | Trinity Int | Industrials E-K | | |
| 3 | Telford | Industrials E-K | | |
| 4 | Macfarlane | Industrials E-K | | |
| 5 | Cardo Eng | Industrials E-K | | |
| 6 | Ramsom Sme | Industrials E-K | | |
| 7 | Nat Aust Bk | Banks | | |
| 8 | Coast | Industrials E-K | | |
| 9 | Tilbury Group | Building Roads | | |
| 10 | Amber Day | Drapery Stores | | |
| 11 | Norman | Food | | |
| 12 | P-E International | Electricals | | |
| 13 | Hardanger | Property | | |
| 14 | Chamberlain & Hill | Industrials A-D | | |
| 15 | Br Vita | Industrials A-D | | |
| 16 | Ranger | Oil & Gas | | |
| 17 | St Ives Op | Paper Print Adv | | |
| 18 | Dinkie Hnd | Industrials A-D | | |
| 19 | Lovell (GP) | Food | | |
| 20 | Wolfschlaue Rink | Chemicals Plast | | |
| 21 | Seaton Clark | Industrials A-D | | |
| 22 | Jordan (Thames) | Industrials E-K | | |
| 23 | Zetters | Leisure | | |
| 24 | Swire Pacific 'A' | Industrials E-K | | |
| 25 | Harwell Plc | Motor Aircraft | | |
| 26 | Electronicspace | Electricals | | |
| 27 | Vale | Electricals | | |
| 28 | Red Executive | Industrials E-K | | |
| 29 | Della | Industrials A-D | | |
| 30 | Barker (Charles) | Paper Print Adv | | |
| 31 | Ward Hidge | Building Roads | | |
| 32 | Plaxtons (GB) | Motor Aircraft | | |
| 33 | Marshall (Lloyds) | Industrials E-K | | |
| 34 | Boulton (Wm) | Industrials A-D | | |
| 35 | Clark Nickolls | Property | | |
| 36 | Molins | Industrials E-K | | |
| 37 | Bank Of Scotland | Banks | | |
| 38 | McAlpine (Aired) | Building Roads | | |
| 39 | Wynfield Eng | Industrials E-K | | |
| 40 | Berford (S&W) | Food | | |
| 41 | Pressac | Electricals | | |
| 42 | Wardman | Drapery Stores | | |
| 43 | Richards (Leeds) | Industrials E-K | | |
| 44 | Hales (Preston) | Industrials E-K | | |
| 45 | Times Newspapers Ltd. | Daily Total | | |

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £16,000 in today's newspaper.

| MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | TOTAL |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| | | | | | | |

BRITISH FUNDS

High Low Buy Price Div Yield

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

| Company | High | Low | Buy | Price | Div | Yield |
|-----------------------|------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| Essex | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Trinity Int | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Telford | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Macfarlane | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Cardo Eng | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Ramsom Sme | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Nat Aust Bk | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Coast | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Tilbury Group | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Amber Day | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Norman | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| P-E International | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Hardanger | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Chamberlain & Hill | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Br Vita | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Ranger | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| St Ives Op | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Dinkie Hnd | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Lovell (GP) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Wolfschlaue Rink | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Seaton Clark | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Jordan (Thames) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Zetters | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Swire Pacific 'A' | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Harwell Plc | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Electronicspace | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Vale | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Red Executive | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Della | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Barker (Charles) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Ward Hidge | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Plaxtons (GB) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Marshall (Lloyds) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Boulton (Wm) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Clark Nickolls | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Molins | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Bank Of Scotland | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| McAlpine (Aired) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Wynfield Eng | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Berford (S&W) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Pressac | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Wardman | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Richards (Leeds) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Hales (Preston) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Times Newspapers Ltd. | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

| Company | High | Low | Buy | Price | Div | Yield |
|-----------------------|------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| Essex | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Trinity Int | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Telford | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Macfarlane | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Cardo Eng | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Ramsom Sme | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Nat Aust Bk | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Coast | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Tilbury Group | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Amber Day | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Norman | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| P-E International | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Hardanger | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Chamberlain & Hill | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Br Vita | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Ranger | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| St Ives Op | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Dinkie Hnd | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Lovell (GP) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Wolfschlaue Rink | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Seaton Clark | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Jordan (Thames) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Zetters | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Swire Pacific 'A' | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Harwell Plc | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Electronicspace | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Vale | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Red Executive | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Della | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Barker (Charles) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Ward Hidge | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Plaxtons (GB) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Marshall (Lloyds) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Boulton (Wm) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Clark Nickolls | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Molins | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Bank Of Scotland | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| McAlpine (Aired) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Wynfield Eng | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Berford (S&W) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Pressac | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Wardman | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Richards (Leeds) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Hales (Preston) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Times Newspapers Ltd. | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

| Company | High | Low | Buy | Price | Div | Yield |
|-----------------------|------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| Essex | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Trinity Int | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Telford | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Macfarlane | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Cardo Eng | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Ramsom Sme | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Nat Aust Bk | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Coast | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Tilbury Group | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Amber Day | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Norman | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| P-E International | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Hardanger | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Chamberlain & Hill | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Br Vita | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Ranger | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| St Ives Op | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Dinkie Hnd | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Lovell (GP) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Wolfschlaue Rink | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Seaton Clark | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Jordan (Thames) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Zetters | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Swire Pacific 'A' | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Harwell Plc | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Electronicspace | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Vale | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Red Executive | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Della | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Barker (Charles) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Ward Hidge | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Plaxtons (GB) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Marshall (Lloyds) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Boulton (Wm) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Clark Nickolls | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Molins | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Bank Of Scotland | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| McAlpine (Aired) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Wynfield Eng | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Berford (S&W) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Pressac | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Wardman | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Richards (Leeds) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Hales (Preston) | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |
| Times Newspapers Ltd. | 100 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 10 | 10.5 |

UNDATED

| | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|--------|------|-----|-----|
| 34 1/2 War Ln | 3 1/2% | 58 1/2 | -1/4 | 8.8 | --- |
| 48 1/2 Conv | 3 1/2% | 56 1/2 | -3/4 | 7.0 | --- |
| 29 1/2 Treas | 3% | 55 1/2 | -1/4 | 9.0 | --- |
| 24 1/2 Console | 2 1/2% | 27 1/2 | -1/4 | 6.0 | --- |
| 24 1/2 Treas | 3 1/2% | 27 1/2 | -1/4 | 9.0 | --- |

Edited by Peter Gartland.

FAMILY MONEY/1

THIS WEEK

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Monday date for BAA

The first privatization under the new administration will be BAA plc, formerly the British Airports Authority. Paul Channon, the new Transport Secretary, announced this week that shares in BAA plc will be offered for sale in July. The pathfinder prospectus will be published on Monday.

Coventry and CU go PEP

The Coventry Building Society is offering investors a Personal Equity Plan in conjunction with Commercial Union Assurance. The initial fee of £10 will be waived for anyone who takes out a plan before the end of July. Customers can choose between investing monthly sums (minimum £35) or making a lump sum investment (minimum £420).

Frizzell offer

The Lloyd's insurance brokers, Frizzell, are offering a 7.5 per cent discount on home contents insurance to policyholders who take certain security precautions, such as window locks and mortice locks on doors. Policyholders must also live in a police-approved neighbourhood watch area.

The credit explosion

Barclaycard, Britain's first bank credit card comes of age at the end of the month. AMANDA PARDOE asks whether this is a cause for celebration

The number of Barclaycard holders has grown from one million in 1986 to 8.6 million at the end of last year, turnover has risen from £10 million in 1986 to £5.391 million in 1987, and the number of UK outlets accepting Barclaycard is up from 35,000 to 258,000.

At the same time, the uses of Barclaycard have been extended. One of the recent innovations is PINPOINT, a network of machines through which Barclaycard holders can pay for petrol or buy rail tickets. PINPOINT petrol pumps are now being installed at around 150 Shell service stations, and PINPOINT rail ticket machines are already operational at 12 main line stations.

Another major development was the launch of DARTS last year, now known as Process Data Quickly, or PDQ for short. PDQ terminals speed up the payment process — the sales assistant simply "swipes" the card through the machine and enters the amount of the sale. The information is relayed to



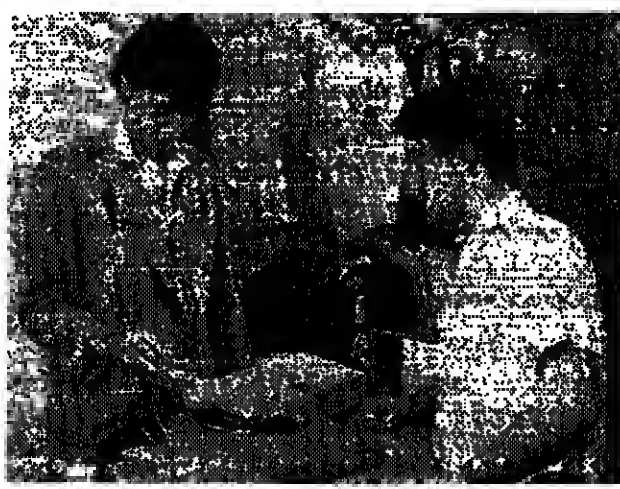
Hazlehurst: "register needed" the card company's computer immediately, so that the transaction can be authorized and processed on the spot.

This means the retailer is spared the usual time-consuming administration. When using a PDQ terminal, cardholders still have to sign their name, and are given a receipt. On a note of reassurance, if you use this system your usual period of credit is not affected.

Barclaycard already has between 500 and 600 PDQ terminals in operation, and plans to have more than 5,000 installed by the end of 1987.

The terminals have been designed to accept a range of cards including Access and American Express, on the agreement that machines installed by these companies will also accept Barclaycard. Barclays' new debit card Connect can also be processed through these machines.

Besides the introduction of PINPOINT and PDQ termi-



It's all so easy: Barclaycard's PDQ service

nals last year, Barclaycard launched the Holiday Club, whereby Barclaycard holders can get discounts of between 5 and 10 per cent on an extensive range of holidays. The take-up has apparently been good, and Barclaycard is to repeat the scheme next year.

In response to this, Access launched its Holiday Club at the beginning of this month.

Barclaycard is not the only credit card with a success story. Access, the other household name, has also attracted a considerable following for its flexible friend.

Access was launched six years later than Barclaycard by Lloyds, Midland, National Westminster, Williams & Glyn's and Royal Bank of Scotland. The number of Access cardholders had risen to 9.7 million by the end of 1986. Last year, its turnover was £6.396 million, and it is accepted in the UK at more than 269,000 retail outlets.

The growing demand for credit cards, however, does not bring only good news. In common with other forms of credit, these two big credit card groups have come in for criticism in recent months.

At the end of May, Sir Gordon Borrie, director-general of the Office of Fair Trading, asked the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to investigate whether or not there is a monopoly in the supply of credit card services in the UK and, if so, whether this is against the public interest.

Sir Gordon based his decision to refer the matter on a number of factors, including the continuing predominance in the market of Access and Barclaycard, the profitability of the banks issuing credit cards, and the rate of interest charged to Access and Barclaycard holders.

On cost, he said the rates "appear to have remained high in relation to the level of the movements in bank base rates".

This comment followed the announcement by Midland and NatWest that they were reducing their rate from 2 per cent per month to 1.75 per cent, and the decision by Lloyds to cut its rate to 1.8 per cent, to take effect in each case from June 1. The last reduction was in 1984. Barclaycard's rate will come down to 1.75 per cent on July 1.

The Commission has two

age of active cardholders not taking extended credit, that is, people who settle their account in full every month, is 40 per cent or more.

Of course, some cardholders do find themselves in difficulties. Where this is the case, both Access and Barclaycard encourage them to make this clear straight away, so that remedial steps can be taken. The worst thing customers can do is let the situation deteriorate because they are worried about revealing their problems.

Not surprisingly, in response to the wider availability of credit in its various forms, lenders are being asked to consider the possibility of not only extending the amount, but also pooling the information they have on customers' creditworthiness.

Both Sir Gordon and Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, have voiced their approval of the suggestion that a national credit register should be introduced. So, too, have the Chancellor Nigel Lawson and Ray Hazlehurst, chairman of the Finance Houses Association (FHA).

At the moment there are two major credit reference agencies, CCN and UAPT-Infobank. The FHA, in co-operation with UAPT-Infobank has developed the Payment Profile Register. Eighty per cent of consumer indebtedness to members of the FHA is recorded on the register.

However, Mr Hazlehurst said this week: "We shall be talking to a wide range of credit grantors, and to other credit reference agencies, in an effort to bring about the comprehensive credit register which I believe will bring benefit to everyone."

Mr Hazlehurst also said that a formal code of conduct would be published by the FHA shortly, to "spread the message of responsible credit across the entire lending spectrum, and to formalize and develop the best practices in the industry".



Borrie: "high interest rates"

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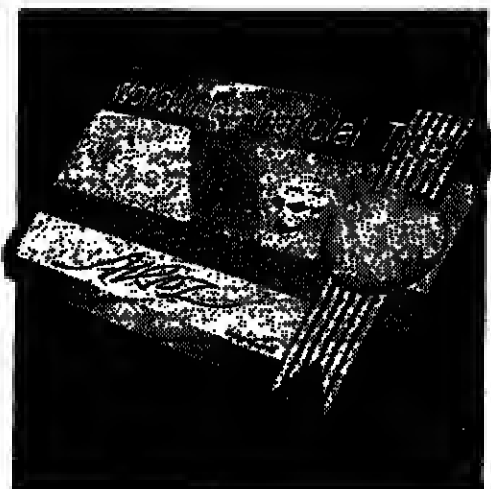
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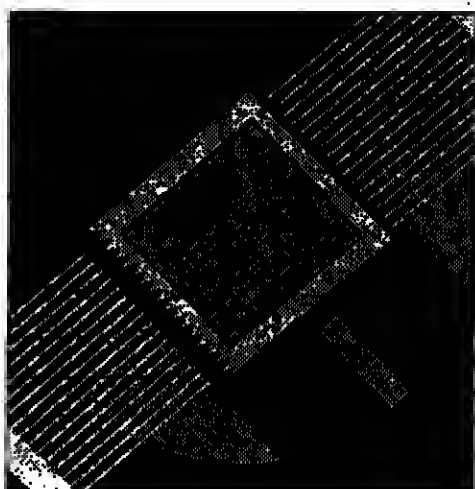


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TO BUY UNITS

If you would like to invest in The Sun Alliance Worldwide Financial Trust and/or The Sun Alliance Worldwide Technology Trust simply complete the form and return it to us with your cheque (minimum £500 in either Trust).

For more information and detailed brochures about these Trusts, call Sun Alliance free on 0800 521596.

UP TO 1½% LAUNCH DISCOUNT
Until July 10th the units carry a fixed offer price of 50p and the minimum investment is £500. After July 10th units will be allocated at the current offer price.

Act before July 10th and you will also receive a discount. Investments of up to £5,000 receive a 1% discount - £5,000 and above receive 1½%.

This discount is operated by automatically increasing the number of units allocated.

TO SELL UNITS

If you decide to sell any of your units, all you need to do is inform us at the address below in writing or by telephone, complete the reverse of your certificate (the Form of Renunciation) and return it to us. We will send you your cheque based on the value of your units at the bid price then ruling.

Some helpful information for you

AUTHORISATION The Trusts are authorised by the Department of Trade and Industry and are constituted by a Trust Deed between Sun Alliance Fund Management Ltd (the Manager) and Lloyds Bank Plc (the Trustee). The Trusts are wide-range investments under the Trustee Investments Act 1961. Sun Alliance Fund Management Ltd is a member of the Unit Trust Association.

APPROVALS Applications for units will be acknowledged by a contract note and certificates will normally follow within 6 weeks.

CHARGES An initial charge of 5% is included in the price of units, to which a rounding adjustment of up to 1% may be added. An annual management fee of 1% plus VAT is deducted from the value of the fund. The maximum charges permitted are 6% and 2% respectively. Any charge is subject to 3 months' notice. Remuneration may be paid to qualified intermediaries: details are available upon request.

CAPITAL GAINS TAX The Trusts are not subject to capital gains tax. A unit holder pays tax on a disposal only if his total taxable gain from all sources, over and above the original purchase price and adjusted for inflation where applicable, is more than the annual allowance (£6,600 for 1987/88).

INCOME TAX Units in both Trusts will be accumulation units. Income arising within the Trusts will not be subject to the normal rates of basic rate tax. Tax vouchers will be issued detailing the amount of income reinvested and tax deducted, and should be submitted with your tax return. No further tax will be payable by basic rate tax payers. Higher rate tax payers may be liable to a further charge. Non tax payers may be able to claim a refund of tax from the Inland Revenue.

YIELD The gross estimated starting yield will be 3% for the Worldwide Financial Trust and 1% for the Worldwide Technology Trust. The distribution date for both Trusts will be 31st August, with the first distribution on 31st August 1988. Annual reports will be sent to all unit holders.

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Signature _____ Date _____

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**SUN ALLIANCE
UNIT TRUSTS**

Managing Your Money With Care

720/6

FAMILY MONEY/2

A new one, if you're with the Woolwich

■ Cheaper interest rates have not been the only development on the mortgage front this week. The Woolwich Building Society has launched an equity mortgage scheme, whereby borrowers acquire full ownership, but pay interest, at the society's usual rate, on only a proportion of the loan. This can be from 80 per cent to 80 per cent.

The remainder forms the equity stake for the Woolwich. When the property is sold, the Woolwich receives its percentage based on the increased value of the property. However, the society expects that most borrowers will be able to afford full ownership within five years.

The scheme is aimed at first-time buyers who are having difficulty buying a home because of high property prices, particularly in the South-East. Initially, it is being offered only on specific properties controlled by Woolwich Homes (1987) Ltd, the housing development arm of the Woolwich.

The society expects that its equity mortgages will be used mainly by people who are waiting to buy a house through their local authority.

■ Two new investment books are published this week. The 1987-88 edition of the *Allied Dunbar Investment Guide* covers all popular forms of investment such as building societies, pensions, life assurance and unit trusts, as well as

many less well known forms, including coins and antiques, factories and warehouses, pleasure gardens and stud farms. The new edition looks at investment in the light of the Financial Services Act and after the impact of Big Bang.

It is published by Longman and is available from bookshops at £13.50. A more academic offering aimed at the student market, but still a good primer for private investors, is *Investment: A Practical Approach*, by a Bristol Polytechnic lecturer, David Kenridge. This is published by M&E Handbooks at £5.95.

■ Keen to cash in on the annual car sales boom in August, two banks have this week announced added incentives for customers seeking car loans. Borrowers taking out a Midland Car Loan on or before September 18 will be given a discount of 1 per cent off the flat rate for the full term of the loan. The current rate is 10 per cent. At 9 per cent, the typical APR is 17.7 per cent. The difference is explained by the unfavourable way in which personal loan rates are calculated.

Successful applicants will also receive a £35 voucher towards the cost of a year's private motor insurance.

The policy is arranged through Midland Bank Insurance Services. Borrowers will be entitled to enter a free competition, the prizes for which are three Ford Escort RS Turbos, five £1,000 Thomas Cook holiday vouchers and 50 £50 EMI record tokens. The minimum loan is £500 and the maximum £10,000, in units of £10. Monthly repayments are fixed from the outset and can be spread over

periods of between six months and five years.

Non-Midland customers will have to transfer their account on agreement of the loan.

From July 1 until October 6, anyone taking out a personal loan with the Yorkshire Bank for car purchases will receive a free copy of the 1987 edition of the *Collins Road Atlas*. The flat loan rate is currently 10 per cent (typical APR 19.4 per cent).

■ Midland Bank this week announced its latest package for new students. Current account services include free banking, even when the student is overseas, and an Autocheque card with a weekly limit of £100.

Students who need to count the pennies - and that a most of them - will also be pleased to hear that the bank will allow interest-free overdrafts of up to £100, provided permission is sought first. The interest on overdrafts of more than £100 that are agreed will be base rate plus 1 per cent. Midland students will also be entitled to buy and sell foreign currency and sterling or US dollar Thomas Cook travellers' cheques without incurring commission charges. A free Eurocheque card, which usually costs £5, is also being offered.

Students who apply for a Midland Access card before the end of the year will receive a year's free subscription to *Cardwise*, the card protection service (normal cost £8).

Apart from these, and other services, Midland is offering two further incentives - £8 in cash and a free student coach card worth £3.50.

Shop around, even as rates fall

Any reference to a cut in mortgage rates is music to home-buyers' ears. However, the reductions announced this week have brought little immediate joy to existing borrowers.

The Halifax set the trend on Wednesday by cutting its rate for new borrowers only, and was quickly copied by the Abbey National. Other lenders, including the National Westminster Bank and the Mortgage Corporation, have all followed suit. Most existing borrowers will have to be patient. It is likely that their rates will fall from August 1 - Lloyds Bank, for one, has said that if there is no change to market conditions this will be the case.

There are, however, exceptions. The Household Mortgage Corporation yesterday cut its rate for new borrowers with immediate effect, and for

existing borrowers for the first payment after August 15. All customers with Yorkshire Bank residential mortgages will have a lower rate from July 1.

New borrowers are now faced with the question of where to go for the best deal. At the Halifax and Lloyds Bank the revised rate is 10.8 per cent, and new borrowers with either the Abbey National, the NatWest or Yorkshire Bank will pay 10.5 per cent. These rates apply to both repayment and endowment mortgages.

The cheapest rate being offered comes from the Mortgage Corporation, where new borrowers are being charged 10.1 per cent instead of 10.9 per cent for endowment mortgages. The Mortgage Corporation offers only endowment mortgages.

At the Household Mortgage

Corporation, the rate has been reduced from 10.9 per cent to 10.25 per cent. HMC primarily offers endowment or pension mortgages, although repayment mortgages may be considered.

Although the typical rate remains 11.25 per cent, a number of lenders are still charging a higher rate, the most obvious of which is the Midland Bank. The Midland was quick off the mark to announce a reduction in the last round of mortgage cuts, when it brought its rate down to 11.5 per cent. However, when competitors reduced their rates to 11.25 per cent, it failed to respond.

Many of the smaller building societies either did not adjust their rates, or else brought them down to 11.5 per cent or more in the last round of cuts. In some cases, the higher rates are charged

only on large loans, while in others they apply across the board.

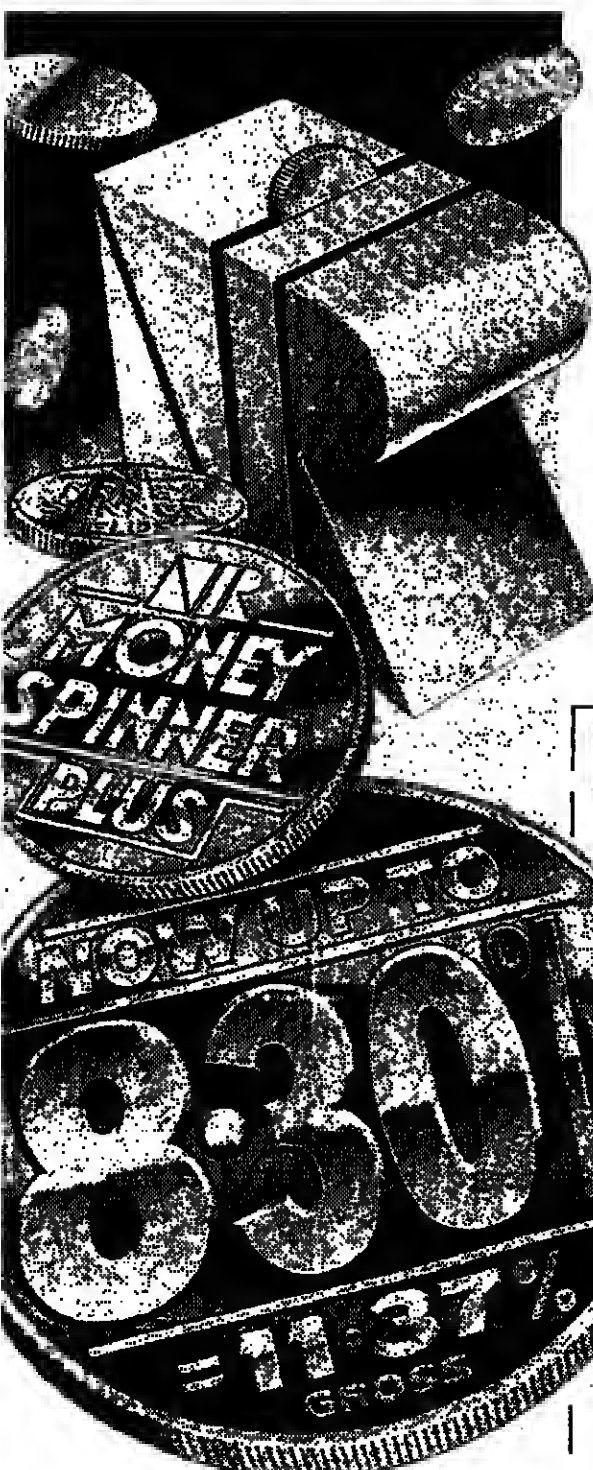
The Aid to Thrift Building Society, has been charging 11.75 per cent on mortgages of up to £58,000 since June 1, and the mortgage rate at the Peckham Building Society has been 11.75 per cent for loans of up to £55,000, since the middle of May.

Both these societies, however, in common with several others charging higher rates, pay very attractive rates to savers.

In view of the wide variety of rates charged, prospective borrowers, where possible, should get several quotes. And, to be really on the ball, they should also ask for the annualized percentage rate (APR), as this will make a truer comparison possible.

Amanda Pardoe

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FAMILY MONEY/3

Pensions: the 20 million customers

With memories of the general election fading fast, the run-up to the biggest privatization of all has begun. It is not the British Airports Authority, it is not the Post Office or the Royal Mint. It's your pension rights.

PETER GARTLAND explains

Since 1983 the traditional partnership between state and occupational schemes has been undergoing a huge shake-up. Improved rights for job movers and the scaling-down of the State Earnings-Related Pension Scheme (SERPS) have been two of the most publicized changes to date.

But the implications of these changes pale into insignificance compared with the personal pensions revolution that is just around the corner.

The shift to personal pensions is just as big a part of the Government's strategy to spread popular capitalism as selling off British Gas and giving council house tenants the right to buy. This strategy extends right through to offering personal pension takers a financial sweetener to move out of SERPS.

The election frustrated the already ambitious timetable for personal pensions but with that out of the way the newly-appointed Social Services Secretary John Moore must make it a priority to pick up from where his predecessor Norman Fowler left off.

There must now be a big question mark over whether the first stage of this revolution — the introduction of free-standing AVCs for occupational scheme members — will come into force from October 1.

However, the dates set for allowing people to transfer to a personal pension from SERPS or from their occupational scheme (January 4 and April 6, 1988, respectively) look much more secure.

With a total potential market of more than 20 million

people up for grabs, it is hardly surprising that the insurance companies have already started to stake a claim to this enormous market.

This week two of the insurance giants — Legal & General and Prudential — unveiled their plans.

The Prudential's range includes a personal pension, an executive pension and a group money purchase scheme. Between them, the plans are aimed at younger employees (men under 45 and women under 35, who stand to benefit from contracting-out of SERPS next year) as well as older employees who want to top up their state pension benefits.

There are also plans for self-employed people, company directors and employers who want to provide a pension for employees.

Both companies stress that they are not out to unsettle the 11 million employees already in final-salary occupational schemes. Unless these people intend to move jobs frequently, they will usually be better off staying as they are.

Nevertheless, there will certainly be some who decide to switch to a personal pension.

A great many people should switch to the personal pension

either because they see themselves as job-hoppers or because they are enticed by the emotional attractions of cutting loose from their employer.

That leaves the prime market as the 10 million people who currently rely on SERPS. In the absence of an employer-sponsored scheme, should they switch to a personal pension? For a great many people the answer must be a resounding "yes".

Legal & General says that people nearing retirement may be better off remaining in SERPS with extra benefits provided through a contracted-in personal pension.

But, it maintains, men under 45 in 1988 and women under 40 (remember the Prudential plumps for age 35 for women) could be expected to benefit from contracting out of SERPS and investing in a personal pension that gives the opportunity of higher benefits.

The comforting thought is that SERPS versus a personal pension need not be a once-and-for-all move. That is because the decision whether to contract out or contract in is made for every tax year. So, somebody with a personal pension, for example, can choose to contract out for some tax years and contract in for others.



John Moore: a priority

Nevertheless, the likelihood is that men under 45 and women under 40 will opt for a personal pension. This is not only because of the multi-million-pound media spend that the insurance companies will devote to wooing them but also because the Government's clear intention is to make SERPS an unattractive alternative for people with more than 20 years to go to retirement.

Take a look at the drastic changes taking place in relation to SERPS. At present, the maximum benefit payable is 25 per cent of relevant earnings. This is to be reduced gradually to 20 per cent.

Moreover, the present SERPS benefit is based on the average of the best 20 years' earnings. In future this will be based on the average earnings over a full career.

By taking into account possible periods of unemployment and fluctuating earnings, the effect is that final benefits could be substantially lower.

But the attractions of a personal pension are not just based on the scaling-down of SERPS. At the same time the Government is offering financial incentives in the form of a National Insurance rebate.

There is also an additional 2 per cent NI incentive (some people call it a bribe) for a six-year period.

Both incentives are available in respect of earnings after April 1987.

The combined effect is to encourage the spread of personal pensions. And, just as with the privatization of state corporations, there is a strong political motivation.

Although the official starting date for the pensions revolution is January 4, 1988, Legal & General argues that the time for action is now.

L&G's pensions director, Chris Harty, said this week: "People waiting until January 1988 to take out individual plans will lose not just six months' pension investment but also the advantage of the more generous calculation of tax-free retirement lump sum."

Mr Harty's company is encouraging people to sign up now to contract out of SERPS with the intention of taking out a personal pension in January.

L&G's competitors will undoubtedly argue that such a move smacks of high-pressure salesmanship but many of them are likely to follow suit.

The extra cover for road victims

If you are injured or killed by a motor vehicle driven by an uninsured driver, you or your dependants could be entitled to an award from the Motor Insurers' Bureau (MIB). Even if the driver cannot be traced, you could still get an award. Such cases are provided for in two agreements made between the Environment Secretary and the Motor Insurers' Bureau in 1972.

Where an uninsured driver is concerned, the MIB will not accept any liability if the vehicle causing the accident belongs to the Crown, unless somebody else has undertaken responsibility for insurance. Again, the bureau is not liable if you are injured while a passenger in a vehicle that you knew or had reason to believe had been taken without consent. But if you did not know it had been taken without permission and you got into the vehicle, it would not be reasonable to expect you to jump out while it was moving.

You may take the uninsured vehicle's owner to court and obtain a judgment against him for personal injuries. If the

award will not include any payment for loss of expectation of life or for pain and suffering that you might have a right to claim under the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1934 or the corresponding Rule of Law in Scotland, nor is the MIB liable for interest on the award.

You may have received wages in full or in part from your employer while absent as a result of the accident. Whether or not you have promised to refund those wages if damages are recovered, you will not be regarded by the MIB as having lost earnings you have actually received.

If, in an untraced motorist case, you are not satisfied with the award or feel the MIB's refusal to make an award is unreasonable, you may give notice of appeal within six weeks of receiving the decision. The appeal would be referred to an arbitrator, but you must first accept the arbitrator's decision and also pay his fee if asked. The MIB is similarly bound. The arbitrator may award the cost of his fee against you if he considers your appeal to be unreasonable; otherwise each party will pay its own costs.

So, if you are involved in an accident with an uninsured driver or injured by a hit-and-run driver, it makes sense to send details to the MIB.

Applications should be sent to the Motor Insurers' Bureau, New Gardeau House, 78 Hatton Garden, London EC1 0JZ (01-242 0033).

Arthur Nicklin

Notice of action must be given

amount awarded is not paid within seven days of judgment, the MIB will, subject to any condition that might preclude its liability, pay you the money due plus interest and costs. This applies whether the debtor is a British resident or a foreign visitor.

However, you must have given the MIB notice of the proceedings first or within seven days of starting them.

If you are killed or injured and the driver causing the accident cannot be traced, the MIB will consider an application for an award, provided the circumstances are such that the untraced driver would be liable to pay damages to you or your dependants. If, however, it can be proved that you were deliberately run down, the MIB will not be liable.

As in the case of the uninsured driver, the MIB is

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Chris Harty: "Decide now"

GILTS - THE TIME IS RIGHT

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Investment: The Aetna Gilt-Edged Fund was voted first for value for money and investment performance in 1986 by the Financial Weekly/Martin Paterson award panel — and is now up 29.5% since launch (26/2/86 — 16/6/87).

Please remember that past performance does not guarantee future growth.

ACT NOW — before interest rates fall further.

*Weighted average performance (all funds) at 1 June 1987, over one year. Aetna is also second over 2 years. Fitch Investment Management Ltd manage the Aetna Gilt-Edged Fund as well as the Aetna unit trusts.

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growth of 324% compared to the Australian All Share Index rise of 75% — impressive by any standards.

The trend is upwards

The aim of NM Australian Fund is capital growth and, in the year to 15.8.87, the fund achieved a 66% Sterling gain* compared with a Sterling rise of 29% in the Australian All Share Index.

Whilst past performance is not necessarily a guide to future prospects, this healthy trend looks set to continue due to:

- * Strong corporate profit growth.
- * Return to fashion of Australian resource stocks.
- * The push of overseas investment capital.
- * The probability of the Australian Government being returned for a third term.
- * Powerful new incentives for Australian individuals to buy shares.

To exploit these opportunities, the managers intend to concentrate the fund's portfolio on stocks that will benefit from the previous devaluation of the AS, such as

metals and mining; on those which will benefit from commodity price strength, such as oil and gold; and on special situations elsewhere in the market.

Strong and successful defence of the AS in recent months suggests that there is now little downside currency risk for UK investors.

*Planned Savings offer to add net income reinvested

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Remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.



General Information

Dealing in units of the Australian Fund is subject to the usual conditions of sale. Units will be sold at the prevailing market price. The fund is managed by NM Professional Investors Fund, managed by the same team, although not an authorised unit trust. In the 16 months from its launch to 29.5.87, this fund has achieved AS capital growth of 324% compared to the Australian All Share Index rise of 75% — impressive by any standards.

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FAMILY MONEY/4

A case of blocked cash

The Court of Appeal ruling that all 1,500 alleged victims of the anti-arthritis drug Opren must share equally all the costs in the proceedings — whether on legal aid or not — has highlighted the problems of mass damages claims.

So-called "class actions" are unknown to the English courts, although common in the United States; and the Opren case is the first to test how the courts' procedures can be adapted to cope. So far the outcome looks bleak.

The Opren Action Group — claimants who have now fought for compensation for five years — had wanted selected legally-aided cases to go forward to test the issue of liability for the rest. This was so that the other alleged victims, many elderly and on modest savings, which exclude them from legal aid, would "ride on the backs" of those on public funds.

But the courts held this was not just. The High Court judge, Mr Justice Hirst, devised his equal costs ruling — endorsed by the Court of Appeal — which means that the legal aid fund will not have to bear all the costs.

His ruling is strictly fair in a mass claim where one third of the claimants are privately funded. But the effect is that hundreds of claims will not be pursued. The 500 alleged

sufferers on private funds are dropping out, and many on legal aid may also now do so as their share of the costs could rise as the total numbers of claimants dwindle.

The moral of the tale seems to be this: whether with legal aid or not, damages claims are extremely difficult to bring. Those who are on modest means, claiming only small sums in damages, cannot afford the risk to their retirement savings. They are in the so-called "middle income trap", which effectively excludes them from the courts those claimants who are just outside the

Defendant may have no money

legal aid limits but do not have large private means.

But it is not widely understood that those on legal aid are little better off. As the Master of the Rolls, Sir John Donaldson, put it: "Legal aid helps those who lose cases, not those who win them." The state, through the legal aid fund, makes "out-and-out" grants to those who lose cases and will pay all the costs of unsuccessful claimants, but gives only "loans" to those who win.

What happens is that if someone is successful in claiming damages, he does not

need to pay the defendant's costs — usually the defendant will be ordered to pay his. But Sir John said: "Let him not celebrate too soon."

He may find the defendant has no money, or the legal aid fund has to incur further expense in making the defendant pay. Furthermore, at best the defendant will be ordered to pay only the plaintiff's "taxed" costs, which are almost always less than the actual costs he has incurred.

So there will always be a shortfall, which may be large, particularly if the plaintiff fails on one of the issues and is ordered to pay some of the defendant's costs in fighting it.

That shortfall is clawed back by the legal aid fund, which it is obliged to do, out of the damages won by the plaintiff. Only then is he paid anything that is left. Sir John warns: "It may be nothing or it may only be relatively small change."

So at the end of the day, if he does recover something over and above the costs incurred, he is in no better a position than a successful litigant on private means. A better solution would be an out-of-court settlement, Sir John urged.

Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent



Privatization: Britain's airports are next on the Tories' list

The Great Sale goes on, but in which direction?

Which direction will the new Government's privatization programme take? JOHN ROBERTS investigates

In publishing the pathfinder prospectus for British Airports Authority next Monday the Government will be wasting no time in the resumption of its privatization programme. But is there much more to come?

Whereas 18 months ago the Chancellor Nigel Lawson said the Government was only halfway through its programme, he implied during the election campaign that the three-quarters mark had been passed. More significantly, the Government then gave several undertakings.

The Royal Mail would never be privatized; British Coal and British Rail not during this Government's lifetime; and British Steel, although profitable, not immediately. Apart from the airports, that appeared to leave only electricity and — in 1988 or 1989 — the water authorities. Or does it?

The Post Office handles millions of across-the-counter transactions, which, as the existing arrangements with small shopkeepers running sub-post offices demonstrate, could be privatized without prejudice to the Royal Mail's

status. The only question about Rover Group is whether it can be privatized as a single entity despite its abysmal record, or needs to be sold off piecemeal.

Then there are candidates such as the Royal Mint that have not been publicly discussed but almost certainly will be considered.

The Royal Mint has been profitable for the last five years for which it has published accounts and has a good export business, sometimes accounting for between half and two-thirds of its turnover. The business could be floated with the prospect of a significant boost from the intended replacement of the 50p and 10p pieces.

Strategic objections about reliance on private contractors for the coin of the realm have not deterred foreign governments from being customers and the UK Government overrode such worries when it sold the strategically more sensitive Royal Ordnance Factories.

So far the privatization programme has been against a background of generally rising share prices. Even so it has faltered, though memories of Britoil and Enterprise Oil have faded. If the stock market turns sour — nothing goes on and up for ever — will three million small investors still scramble for Electricity Generating Board shares?

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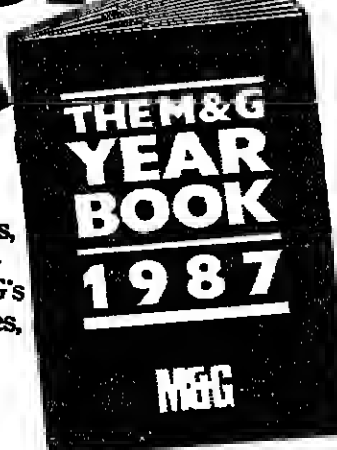
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FAMILY MONEY/5

Funds from home to buy abroad

Financing an overseas leisure property can be an expensive proposition. Too often a point stressed by a developer or his agent is that the annual rental income of the proposed purchase will easily cover mortgage repayments.

But it would be a foolish investor indeed who relied on such a method. Assurances of high rental income and the reality of intermittent lets, upkeep costs and agents' commission — often 25 per cent — mean no one should expect more than to cover total annual running costs from net income. Anything more is a welcome bonus.

Many developers in France, Italy and Switzerland offer specially arranged finance packages but often the repayment period is short — between five and 10 years — and interest rates are high. But for some, convenience can outweigh costs.

Without doubt the most straightforward method is to remortgage your principal UK residence and pay cash for the overseas acquisition. At the moment, building societies are not too keen to offer this facility but are hoping to do so during 1988 for Italian and French properties. However, most banks will consider this option.

Allied Duobor will arrange, subject to status, loans to purchase property in France.

Allied Dunbar's mortgage marketing consultant, Jill Newman-Rogers, says: "If the client criteria were satisfactory, we would lend money through our home loans department for a property abroad, using the UK home as security. Or we can suggest one of 200 other sources of finance."

Allied Dunbar's alternative is to arrange a loan, using the French property as collateral, through Banque Transatlantique. This bank will lend up to 50 per cent of the value of the French property, which can be either new or resale. The loan is granted for a maximum of 15 years and issued in French francs, currently repayable at 10.5 per cent. Loans can be arranged in other major currencies if required, at the appropriate rate of interest.

Favourable rates cancelled out by strong Swiss franc

Transatlantique. This bank will lend up to 50 per cent of the value of the French property, which can be either new or resale. The loan is granted for a maximum of 15 years and issued in French francs, currently repayable at 10.5 per cent. Loans can be arranged in other major currencies if required, at the appropriate rate of interest.

Allied Dunbar will write a loan term protection policy, assigned to the French lender and paid to the UK.

which for a man of, say, 40 years borrowing £20,000 over 10 years, costs £68.76 a year.

Borrowing through a Swiss bank, with its traditionally low interest rates, seems a sound proposition. And so it is, but the favourable rates are counteracted by the strength of the Swiss franc. In 1981, for example, the exchange rate was 4.5 Swiss francs to the pound. Today, it stands at around 2.5 to the pound.

There are two methods of obtaining finance to buy a Swiss leisure home. First, there is a mortgage loan, *prêt hypothécaire fixe*, which fixes the amount of the sum borrowed. Second, there is a loan on a current account, *crédit en compte courant*, which opens a line of credit stating the maximum amount of the loan, which can vary within the fixed limits.

As a guide, mortgage finance of up to 60 per cent of the purchase price is available with the mortgage repayable over 15 to 20 years at a current rate of 6.25 per cent. Foreigners pay a slightly higher interest rate, around 0.5 of a percentage point more, than Swiss residents, and this is usually referred to as "commission". It is possible to arrange 70 per cent mortgages if there

is additional security available or a bank guarantee.

Repayments are made in Swiss francs every six months and Swiss banks do not insist on life insurance or endowment policies.

Simoo Malster, a partner in the London solicitors' firm, Osbornes, says: "If the purchaser is buying property off-plan or in the course of construction, he is committed to making payments as each stage of construction is reached."

"Under these circumstances, it is usually best to borrow from the bank that is financing the construction as they will be familiar with the property, the constructor and the building schedule."

"The constructors' bank will make part of the funds available to the borrower during the construction period and before completion."

"The bank and the borrower are both secure in making advance payments of this type as all payments are blocked in the account of the notary who is handling the sale and are only released to the constructor when the building is completed."

Diana Wildman

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FS HIGHER YIELD FUND

Those holidays in the sun without any debts

Unlike cars, furniture and other consumer durables, holidays are rarely bought on credit. NICHOLAS COLE explains why

If holidays are no longer regarded as occasional luxuries, the practice of "saving up" remains widespread.

Should this suggest a nation of moralists hunched over piggy-banks, the truth lies nearer to traditional reluctance about mortgaging oneself to ephemeral emotion.

Coupled with this is a fear of straining one's ability to service continuing domestic commitments if faced with a holiday debt of £1,000-£1,500 — the approximate cost of a short-to-medium haul fortnight in the sun for a four-member family.

"People aren't happy coming home to a liability like that," says Thomas Cook, part of the Midland Bank empire.

Thinking marketers in some travel firms believe more research is needed into what one calls consumers' "psychological" aversion to using credit for holidays while being willing to employ it on everything else from season tickets to stereos.

Others in the business follow the status quo unquestioningly, and see nothing remarkable in the way consumer credit is exploited by the trade, which is possibly unique in hustling customers to pay in full a standard eight weeks before the "product" is delivered.

The chief justification offered for this appears to be that all the others down the line — mainly airlines and hotels — are also holding out their hot little hands on various pretexts.



Although available on a limited basis, schemes of the fly-own-pay-later type are only marginally more popular than saver schemes such as the short-lived one that was run jointly by the Alliance Building Society and the Association of British Travel Agents.

Balking at the extra work and administrative costs involved, few tour operators offer instant credit. The major multiples provide this facility in association with banks and leading finance houses. The uptake, however, is neither unusually nor uniformly high.

Bank cards prove more popular

Twenty thousand people hold the Thomas Cook credit card launched in 1985, and 85 per cent of them use it. The average spend is £241 per cardholder on 3.85 transactions annually — deposits, final balances, foreign currency purchase, insurance, car hire and so on.

Exchange Travel says the

take-up on instant credit offered through its 61 retail branches via Lombard Tricity is "not great", and indicates resistance to interest rates.

In addition to a £5 deposit scheme introduced earlier this year, travel agent Lunn Poly operates a Welbeck-backed holiday card facility allowing up to £1,500 instant credit.

"The number of people taking that scheme with us represents less than 4 per cent of our customer total, whereas the number using Access or Barclaycard is just over 20 per cent," discloses Lunn Poly's marketing director, Roger Peverett.

He adds that bank cards have established themselves "very strongly" as a method of handling payments, while the in-house credit cards tend to be used by customers not wanting to clutter their main commitments schedule with holiday borrowing (and in Lunn Poly's case, the average spend is £600).

From the banks' viewpoint, bank cards surprisingly prove more popular as a means of paying for holidays than the budget accounts, which are promoted partly for this purpose and which involve only service charges without incurring the risk of interest payments.

All this suggests that although our attitudes to taking holidays "on tick" are beginning to unbend, caution still rules; and that where credit is used, this is solely as a short-term convenience for financing only part of the total holiday cost.

One obvious exception seems to be the impulse holiday. Convenience apart, the appeal of credit here is that the interest charge can be more than offset by price savings on last-minute, bargain-reduction packages.

Overall, the travel trade likes to promote the view that holiday costs relative to disposable income have reduced, not just in real terms but in customers' individual perceptions as well.

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GRE

UNIT TRUSTS

How today's expats can get a better deal

SAVINGS

Cynthia wears a floral frock and mixes pink gins for George when he comes home from a tiring day running the tea plantation.

That image of the British expatriate is now recognizable only from 1950s movies. But although the style may have changed, the 1980s expat is far from being an endangered species.

Some expats are out of the UK for a three-year stint in Taiwan or Saudi Arabia. Others are career nomads whose cultural shock at switching continents is apparently no greater than that experienced by their stay-at-home brethren when they move from Croydon to Esher.

For expats of all types, financial planning is an essential ingredient in their roving diet. Until last year, building societies were little used by them as a savings home but that has all changed and the societies now have a great deal to offer them.

The change was triggered by the 1985 Finance Act making it possible from April 6, 1986, for building societies to credit interest on a gross-of-tax basis to the accounts of expatriate savers.

This is different from the practice the societies have to observe for UK residents — tax broadly equivalent to basic-rate tax is deducted before interest is credited and cannot be reclaimed, even by non-taxpayers.

Technically, in order to qualify for gross interest on their investments, individual building society investors

must provide a declaration that they are not ordinarily resident in the UK, and must advise the building society if they cease to be not ordinarily resident. Britain's biggest building society, the Halifax, takes a keen interest in its 25,000 overseas customers, especially as the tax changes gave it something to talk to them about, and today it publishes a guide to taxation for its growing band of overseas investors.

The Bristol & West takes the expat market so seriously that it recently ran an advertising campaign on Gibraltar's English language television station, aimed at Britons living in Southern Spain. Four times a night, every night, Bristol & West beamed out its message giving a Gibraltar address that people could contact for further information. The society is coy about revealing the results of the campaign for what it calls "competitive reasons" but claims it was a success.

Michael Chadwick, joint managing director of financial advisers Chase de Vere, says

Keen to generate new business

building society accounts paying a gross return to non-residents was something of a non-event when they were introduced last year. The societies were already over-liquid, he explains, and had little need to attract new investment. Now it is very different.

With poor receipts in recent months, highlighted by the exodus of funds into privatizations, coupled with rec-



ord lending, a number of societies are now keen to generate new business from the non-resident market.

The real beneficiaries, says Mr Chadwick, will be the non-residents who qualify for the gross returns. "For them," he says, "there is the advantage of virtually complete security, plus a rate of interest several percentage points above bank deposit accounts."

Chase de Vere produces regular interest rate updates on building society accounts available to non-residents. Its latest figures supplied to *The Times* yesterday compare rates from five major societies — Halifax, Abbey National, Nationwide, Woolwich and Alliance & Leicester.

Direct comparisons are not easy because interest rates vary according to size of

investment and the notice period for withdrawals. However, among the best buys from the industry giants are 11 per cent from the Abbey National (minimum £10,000 and instant withdrawal) and 10.57 per cent from the Woolwich (minimum £500), provided you are prepared to accept a 90-day notice of withdrawal condition.

Small societies often offer the best rates

But the best rates of all are often available from the smaller societies. Chase de Vere quotes 11.83 per cent available to non-residents from the Portsmouth Building Society, provided they are prepared to lock up at least £500 for a minimum of three years.

Alternatively, Birmingham Midshires is offering 11.6 per cent on a minimum investment of £500 for a 60-day notice period. Other good deals on offer are 11.3 per cent from the Bury St Edmunds Building Society (instant withdrawal and no minimum investment) and 12.1 per cent from the Guardian (28 days' notice and a minimum £3,000 investment). This rate will drop from July 1 but is likely to remain competitive.

Building society rates for expats are markedly higher than those for UK residents but like all such rates there is a constant jockeying for position. Non-residents intending to open a building society account should keep a constant look-out for the best terms available.

Peter Gartland

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Moreover, the strength of our economy is now recognised abroad. The volume of overseas buying, particularly by the Japanese, has been driving the market up: their interest looks set to continue.

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General Information: An initial charge of 5%

is included in the offer price and an annual

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and a half-yearly report. The Trust is authorised

by the Department of Trade and Industry and

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Due: The Trust pays no capital gains tax on its

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A G O O D L O N G - R U N I D E A

FAMILY MONEY/8

Building business with a new jargon

Spots, Sapcos and Pincs are words that might not be allowed yet in Scrabble games. They are the jargon of a new market being formed — property investment in single buildings or groups of buildings.

The words are acronyms for the three methods proposed for investment in the market, which is likely to get under way later this year. The Stock Exchange has recently published its listing requirements for single property schemes, to pave the way for trading of unitized and securitized properties on the London market.

The Barkshire Committee, under the chairmanship of John Barkshire, of Mercantile House, is at the forefront of this development. It has been working for some time to bring the new market to fruition and is responsible for the development of Spots (single property ownership trusts) and Sapcos (single asset property companies), while Pincs (property income certificates) are sponsored by the PINCS Association.

The reasons for the emergence of the market lie in changes in the pattern of ownership of commercial property, whose long-term ownership is dominated at present by the savings industry through institutions such as the insurance companies and larger pension funds.

One problem is that there is a time lag between a decision to buy or sell and its implementation because there is no central market-place in which buyers and sellers can come together either to be aware of each other's existence or to move prices quickly to reflect market conditions.

In addition, valuation of large buildings is uncertain because it is difficult or impossible to test their value in the market-place or to measure their value easily against similar but smaller buildings.

The Barkshire Committee points out that large single

One advantage is greater liquidity

properties tend to constitute significant proportions of even the biggest portfolios, and as a result many investors, especially small pension funds and private individuals, are increasingly being excluded from areas of the market in commercial property.

The proposed new market dealing in "units" and shares related directly or indirectly to the ownership of a single property, or something like a shopping centre, would overcome these problems by allowing greater liquidity. There will be a central market-place in relatively small transactions, by introducing valuation based on the market price of units or shares, and giving the potential for more active management and a far wider spread of ownership of commercial property.

The two new investment vehicles likely to lead the way

are Sapcos and Pincs. Spots require regulations under the Financial Services Act before they can do business.

A Sapco is a company that owns a single building, similar to an ordinary property company but with narrower assets. It can have shares and debt securities, and has a flexible capital structure, allowing different classes of security carrying different risk-return characteristics.

There is at present one Sapco, Billingsgate City Securities, which owns a City of London office block, and whose shares are quoted on the Luxembourg stock exchange and could be floated in London shortly.

It offers three classes of security — a mortgage debenture offering a fixed return with the property as security; preferred ordinary shares with priority equity rights over rent and capital but subordinated to the mortgage debenture; and ordinary shares with an



John Barkshire: in the chair interest in the rental growth and the residual value of the property.

Future Sapcos are expected to be floated in London so that a market in Sapco securities will develop there.

Pincs offer an entitlement to a share in the rental income from a single property, with a share in the management company running the property, but not direct ownership.

A Spot is a trust owning a single building, with investors holding a direct interest in it and all rents, profits and income derived from the trust assets. It is envisaged that Spots would be marketable in the UK to domestic and overseas individuals and institutions, and units could be issued in small denominations to encourage a wide spread of investors to participate.

So far the PINCS Association has a membership of around 60, and the Barkshire Committee has achieved one of its first aims, a membership of 50 each paying a subscription of £10,000. Its members include Prudential Assurance, Britain's biggest private sector property owner, which has given the process a considerable boost.

The Association of Property Unit Trusts has just announced that it has become an observer member of both the Barkshire Committee and the PINCS Association, and this year could see the new market well and truly launched.

Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

Aetna's Investment Director is performing rather well! ▶

So well, in fact, that according to figures just published*, Aetna has climbed to the very top of the investment ladder, overtaking some familiar names on the way.

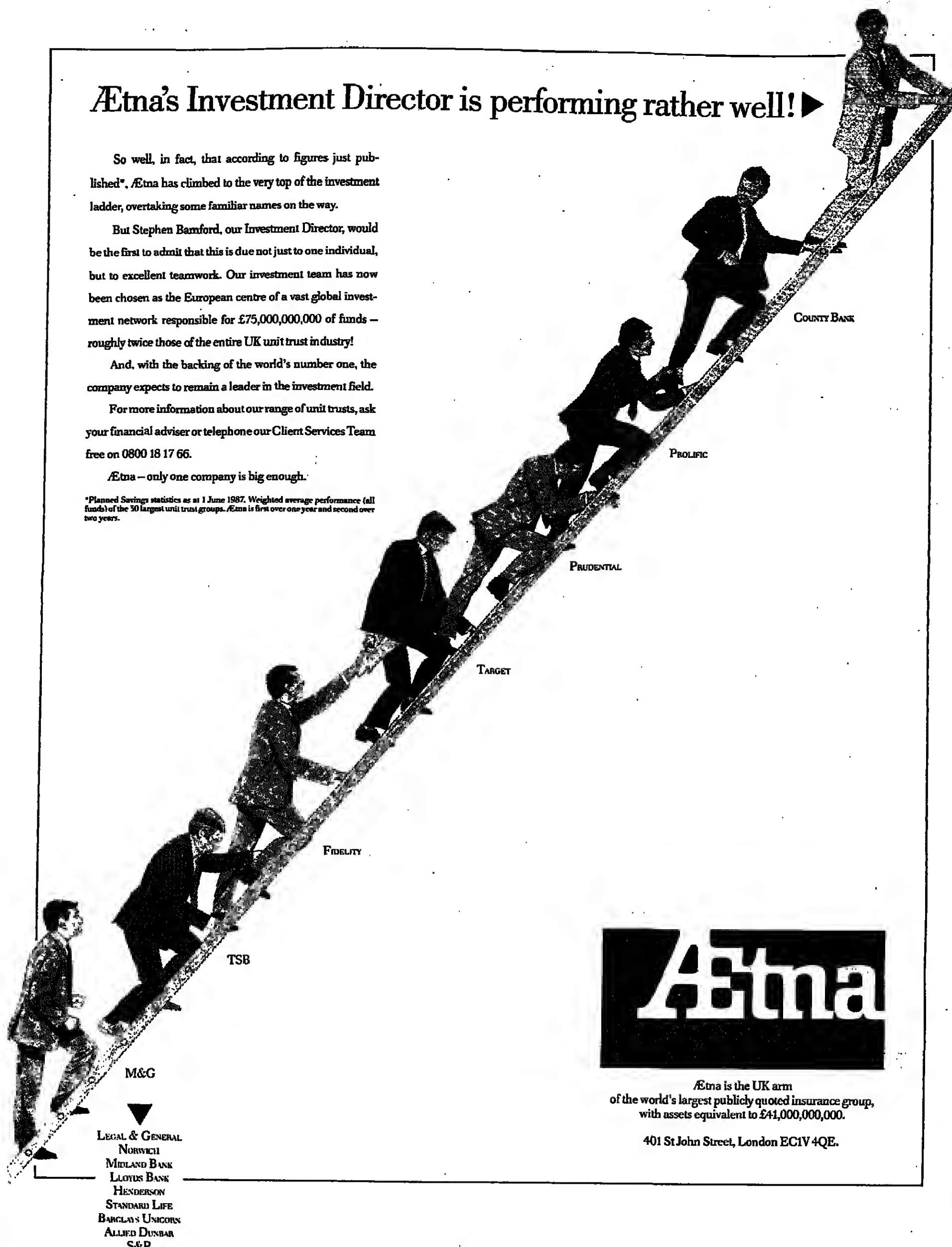
But Stephen Barnford, our Investment Director, would be the first to admit that this is due not just to one individual, but to excellent teamwork. Our investment team has now been chosen as the European centre of a vast global investment network responsible for £75,000,000,000 of funds — roughly twice those of the entire UK unit trust industry!

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Abroad, particularly in Europe, there is a new respect for Britain

WALL STREET JOURNAL 20th May 1987

Among international investment institutions it is now widely acknowledged that British industry today is leaner, fitter and more competitive.

Only British growth appears to be doing well among the major industrialised countries in 1987

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC REVIEW Nomura Research Institute April 1987

In fact, some of the U.K.'s largest companies are among the world's most successful in their field. Yet comparisons with similar foreign companies clearly suggest that their British counterparts are undervalued by international standards.

Election results set to stimulate U.K. share price rises. The international media is unanimous in its analysis. The Election success of the Conservative Party will mean the extension and development of stable government and the economic policies that are regarded by overseas investors as the force behind the current spirit of optimism in British industry.

"Conversely, there would probably be an immediate surge once a Tory election victory was confirmed, as overseas investors look to the 'Thatcher factor' as a reason for backing Britain. Japanese institutions are likely to be strong buyers of the market."

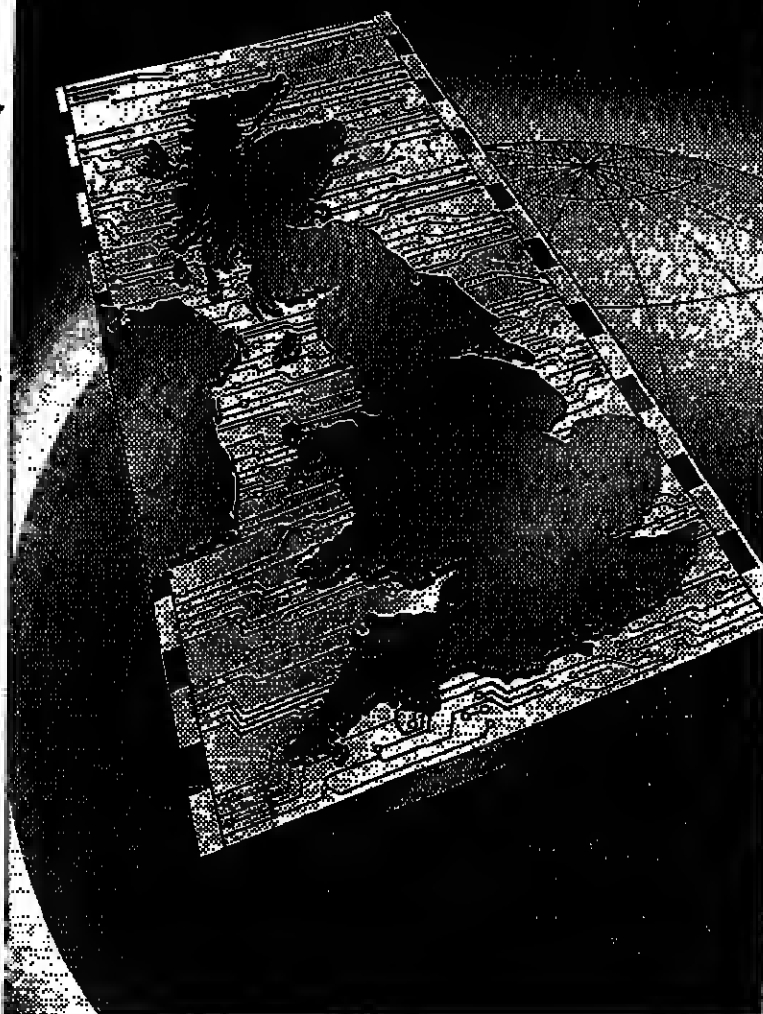
SUNDAY TELEGRAPH 31st May 1987

There is an enormous 'weight of money' controlled by international investment institutions. For example, it is estimated that some ¥90 billion is invested annually by Japanese investors in domestic equities, while only an estimated ¥0.3 billion is invested by the Japanese in U.K. equities.

With Japanese equities standing at unsustainable levels, political stability could be the decisive factor in moving part of the Japanese 'money mountain' into the U.K. stock market.

Looked at in terms of any of the major investment criteria — yields, prospective PE ratios or asset backing — U.K. shares clearly have considerable scope for relative price movements. If international 'weight of money' were added to increasing domestic interest, U.K. shares at present levels could look very attractive indeed.

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Perpetual's Past Performance

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|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Launch date | 11.9.74 | 16.6.79 | 23.1.82 | 24.9.83 | 22.9.84 | 4.5.85 | 18.1.86 |
| Annual Compound growth rate | 31.1% | 22.1% | 26.2% | 11.5% | 28.2% | 45.4% | 19.8% |
| Fund rise since launch | 3,037% | 391% | 248% | 49% | 95% | 117% | 28% |

All figures are as to 30 June 1987, inclusive of re-invested income except for the Income Fund and are on an after-tax basis.

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for investments of £2,500 or more — 2% bonus

Units will be allocated at the offer price of units prevailing on the date of receipt of applications.

GENERAL INFORMATION All applications will be acknowledged within a week, and certificates will be sent to you within ten weeks. Units can be bought on any business day at the offer price then ruling. If you wish to sell your units, the Managers will purchase them at a net price of 95% of the offer price on the business day following receipt of your written instructions. Charges, an initial charge of 5.25% and an annual charge of 1.25% on the value of the units, will be made by the Managers when the units are issued. A small rounding up charge may be included in the difference between the amount invested and the amount received. There is an annual charge of 1.25% (per unit) of the value of the units which is deducted from income paid to the Fund. The Managers are permitted to increase the annual charge to 1.5% (per unit) in which case there would be no need to pay to all shareholders. Redemption is paid to shareholders — after deduction of charges. All income earned by the Fund is automatically reinvested. The Estimated Gross Redemption Value is 95% based on the offer price of £100 (12th June 1987). Unredeemed units will receive the 30th April each year (commencing 30.4.88) a statement showing the net amount of redeemed income together with the report and accounts of the Fund. The Fund is constituted by a Trust Deed which contains provisions for the Managers to invest or purchase real estate on behalf of the Fund. Prices and the yield of the Fund are subject to change. The Trustees are Messrs Perpetual Fund Management Ltd, 40 Hart Street, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon OX9 2AZ. Telephone (0494) 576662. The offer is available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

N.B. You should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. Past performance is not a guarantee of future success.

To: Perpetual Unit Trust Management Ltd, 40 Hart Street, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon OX9 2AZ. Telephone: Henley-on-Thames (0494) 576662. Registered in England No 164031 at the above address.

If we enclose a cheque payable to Perpetual Unit Trust Management Ltd, for the amount shown below for immediate investment in the Perpetual U.K. Growth Fund at the offer price prevailing on the day of receipt of this application, I am/we are over eighteen.

If we wish to invest £ (minimum £1,000).

This application, together with your cheque, must reach us by Tuesday 30th June in order to qualify for the bonus offer. Units will be allocated at the offer price of units prevailing on the date of receipt of applications.

SURNAME: (Mr/Ms/Miss)

FIRST NAME:

ADDRESS:

POST CODE:

SIGNATURE(S):

Perpetual
Member of the Unit Trust Association

FAMILY MONEY/9

Counter-attack by the building societies

Building societies are facing greater competition from banks for mortgages and savings.

HAZEL SPINK reports on how they are fighting back

Building societies are having to expand into new areas to maintain their former profitability. Fortunately for them, recent legislation has removed some of the restrictions under which they had to operate and they now have a number of new powers, one of which is to move into money transmission services. This means they can take on the banks in their hitherto unchallenged monopoly of this market.

It is now almost six months since the Building Societies Act took effect and so far the nationwide has probably gone further than any society in launching its interest-bearing current account, FlexAccount.

Every FlexAccount customer is issued with a plastic card that can be used to withdraw cash from branches and cash dispensers in the LINK network. Cash and cheques can be deposited, bills paid, balances and mini-statements obtained and full statements requested. A cheque book and guarantee card are available on request, standing orders and direct debits can be arranged and salaries can be paid directly into the account. There is also an overdraft facility.

The rudiments of a home banking service are already in place, and by using a home banking telephone unit customers can already obtain balances and request statements. Within a few months they will be able to pay their bills by picking up the telephone.

Admittedly, current interest

rates are not high. Balances between £1 and £100 earn 2 per cent, £100 to £500 3.5 per cent, and larger amounts 5 per cent, but at the moment most bank current accounts pay nothing.

A further indication of the societies' willingness to become involved in money transmission services is the step taken by the Halifax and the Abbey National this month when they joined APACS (the Association of Payment Clearing Systems) and BACS (the Bankers Automated Clearing System).

APACS is the umbrella organization that determines policy for Britain's payment systems. BACS is the clearing body responsible for settling small automated payments. Before joining, the two societies had to clear payments

The way forward is with plastic cards

through a bank; the Halifax through Barclays and the Abbey National through Lloyds. Now such transactions as direct payment of salaries into accounts, standing orders, direct debits and regular income payments should be speeded up by as much as three days.

Meanwhile, the Halifax is continuing to develop its Cardcash account, arguing that the way forward lies with the plastic card and hole-in-the-wall banking. Cardcash offers an ATM card which can be used to withdraw cash, deposit cash and cheques and obtain mini-statements and balances. Full statements can be requested. A free bill-paying and fund transfer service is provided and standing orders can be arranged. Balances up to £2,000 attract 5 per cent net, and larger amounts 6.88 per cent net.

The Abbey National op-

erates an account called Cheque-Save, offering a cheque book, a pass book and a cash card. However, it does not provide a guarantee card is not provided or standing order or direct debit facilities. Balances between £1 and £2,499, £2,500 and £9,999, £10,000 and £24,999, and £25,000 and above are paid 4.45 per cent, 6.88 per cent, 7.35 per cent and 7.85 per cent respectively.

However, by the end of this year, the Abbey National will launch a new current account. This will almost certainly be paper rather than card-based. The society agrees with the Halifax that future transactions will be carried out by plastic, but in the interim period - which could be 20 years - cheques will remain important to customers.

Some of the smaller societies also run current accounts. The Norwich and Peterborough, for example, has the Cash Counter account, offering a cheque book, up to 10 standing orders, unlimited direct debits and free banking if balances are above £250. However, if the balance in the account drops below this, a charge of £1 per cheque is levied, and a cheque card is not provided.

The Town & Country's Moneywise account can be opened with £250. Again, a cheque book and a cash card are provided but not a guarantee card. Five standing orders can be arranged. Transactions are free where the balance is above £250. Otherwise there is a charge of 50p per payment.

In view of the fierce competition and customer demand, the question many societies must be asking is not whether they can afford to offer a current account providing all services, but whether they can afford not to.



John Arnold: fund manager



Andrew Withey: "prospects"

Backing Canada for capital growth

A new unit trust investing in shares of Canadian companies is launched today by Crown Financial Management.

The aim of the fund, which will be managed by John Arnold, is capital growth, and Crown argues that now is a good time to invest in Canada, particularly for those looking to expand their spread of international investments.

Crown says its reasons for optimism include Canada's improved economic outlook, a stabilized currency, lower interest rates, the current level of oil prices and the pick-up in commodity markets. The managers also point to an increasingly stable political environment and benefits from the North American Free Trade area.

According to Crown's investment director Andrew Withey shares of Canadian companies are modestly valued by world standards and at this stage in the world economic cycle Canada's strong commodity base combined with improving financial conditions should offer good prospects for capital growth.

The initial investment portfolio is likely to be about one-third in natural resources, such as gold, oil, forestry and aluminium, 25 per cent in consumer companies and 15 per cent in the financial sector, including banks and property companies. The remainder of the portfolio is likely to concentrate on consumer stocks and holding companies such as Canadian Pacific and Bell Canada Enterprises.

The minimum investment is £500. There is a 5.25 per cent initial charge as well as the usual annual charge of 1 per cent plus VAT.

Canada is the world's fifth largest stock market but, to put its position in perspective, it should be remembered that in total capitalization terms it is valued at less than a tenth of the US market.

But more than the relatively small size of the market, which can cause problems of choice for fund managers, prospective investors should be aware that the track record of the few

existing unit trusts specializing in Canada has been little short of dismal.

According to figures to be published in the July issue of the financial magazine *Money Management*, a £1,000 investment in *Atlantic Canadian* over a three-year period to June 1 would now be worth just £848. Over the same period a £1,000 investment in *Canada Growth*, managed by a subsidiary of Save & Prosper, would have turned into £995.

Over the latest 12-month investment period to June 1 a £1,000 investment in *Atlantic Canadian* and *Canada Growth* would be worth £729 and £928 respectively. Twelve-month figures for the newer *Hambro Canadian* and *Waverley Canadian* funds are £1,068 and £938 respectively.

It is hardly an encouraging picture unless, of course, you believe investment conditions in Canada are about to change dramatically.

Peter Gartland

This School Fee Trust Plan could slash your education costs.

School fee plans are not all the same as so many parents might suppose.

Our new School Fee Trust Plan, linked to a trust with charitable status, will provide a head start in providing for school fees in the years ahead.

That trust basis, combined with our first-class investment track record, is the answer to your problem.

And, what's more it is fully recommended by the National Independent Schools Information Service.

To: The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, Walton Street, AYLESBURY, Bucks HP21 7BR. I'd welcome further details on your school fee plans, financing them by: ☐ A capital sum; ☐ Spreading the cost over a period. (UK residents only)

Name (Mr/Ms/Miss)

Address

Postcode

Date of Birth

Tel. (Office)

Tel. (Home)

BKA 7F



Founded 1762

The Equitable Life

You gain because we're different.

ACCOUNTS OFFERED BY TOP FIVE BUILDING SOCIETIES

| Society/Account | Cheque book | Guarantee card | Credit card | Cash card | Direct payment of salary into account | Net interest rate as at 18.5.87 |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Halifax Cardcash | No | No | No | Yes | Yes | £1-£1,999 5.00% £2,000+ 6.88% |
| Abbey National Cheque-Save | Yes | No | Yes | LINK | Yes | £1-£2,499 4.45% £2,500-£24,999 6.00% £25,000-£24,999 7.35% £25,000+ 7.85% |
| Nationwide FlexAccount | Yes | Yes | Yes | LINK | Yes | £1-£99 2% £100-£499 3.5% £500+ 5% |
| Woodwich Cardcash | No | No | No | MATRIX | Yes | £1+ 5.50% |
| Leeds Pay & Save Budget Plan | Yes | Yes | No | MATRIX | Yes | £1-£1,999 5.00% £2,000+ 7.00% |

* A credit card is available through the Yorkshire Bank to all customers, although it is not specifically linked to this account.
* This account is a combination of a building society account and a bank account. The rates given are for the building society account.

A U.K. record

Since launch, Prolific's UK unit trusts have out-performed all of their competitors.

| | Performance since launch | Position in sector |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Prolific High Income | +2,633.9% | 1st/33 |
| Sector: UK Equity Income Launch date: 2.9.1974 | | |
| Prolific Special Situations | +580.2% | 1st/70 |
| Sector: UK Growth Launch date: 1.2.1982 | | |
| Prolific Extra Income | +175.6% | 1st/14 |
| Sector: Mixed Income Launch date: 13.10.1984 | | |
| Prolific Convertible & Gilt | +55.2% | 1st/41 |
| Sector: Gilt & Fixed Interest Income Launch date: 1.11.1985* | | |

Figures calculated on an offer to bid basis, net income reinvested. (Source: Opal Stars 1.6.1987)
*Originally launched as Prolific Gilt Capital on 1.6.1981.

To: Prolific Unit Trust Managers Ltd., FREEPOST, London EC2B 2PR.
☐ Please send me further information on Prolific's UK unit trusts.
☐ I would also like details of Prolific's Personal Equity Plan. (Please tick as appropriate.)

Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____



T20/6/87

The General Election is behind us, the Government returned, and a continuation of present fiscal policies assured.

It may now be expected that substantial funds will begin to flow into the UK stockmarket - particularly from large Japanese and American institutions.

With the UK economy recognised as the fastest growing in Europe, British shares look decidedly cheap in comparison with their higher-rated counterparts overseas, particularly in Japan.

The message is clear: invest now at current prices, and enjoy the UK boom through the tailor-made portfolio of the Clerical Medical Pedigree Growth Trust.

PEDIGREE POTENTIAL

Launched on September 6th last year, the Pedigree Growth Trust set out to achieve strong capital growth, with above-average stability, by investing in British companies that demonstrate the highest standards of management over a sustained period. Such a portfolio clearly serves the needs of both the inexperienced investor and the more sophisticated investor seeking a strong UK core holding.

An indication of the potential comes from the excellent performance achieved to date, with 51.6% growth in the Offer Price, compared with 41.9% in the FT - Actuaries All Share Index (net income reinvested). Of course, you should remember that past performance is no guarantee of future success.

CLERICAL MEDICAL EXPERTISE

Clerical Medical Unit Trust Managers Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Society, which is one of Britain's largest life assurance companies, managing funds in excess of £3,500 million.

Founded in 1824, Clerical Medical has a reputation for consistently producing above-average investment returns, even during times of adversity. They have, for example, paid bonuses to their With-profits policyholders for every year since 1824.

HOW TO INVEST

The minimum initial investment is £500, but thereafter you can add amounts of £250 upward to your holding.

The Offer Price on 18th June, 1987 was 37.9p and the Bid Price was 35.8p. The current estimated gross yield is 1.6% p.a.

By telephone - you can buy units by phoning the Managers' Dealing Line (Free Linkline 0800 373393). Settlement will be required on receipt of the contract note.

By post - use the coupon below and return it together with your cheque made payable to Clerical Medical Unit Trust Managers Limited.



CONSISTENCY · STRENGTH · EXPERIENCE

Clerical Medical Unit Trust Managers Limited, Registered No. 1835691.
Member of the Unit Trust Association.
A wholly owned subsidiary of Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Society, Narrow Plains, Bristol BS2 0PL. Telephone 0272 290566.

UK BOOM? PEDIGREE GROWTH!

THE PEDIGREE PORTFOLIO

The Pedigree Growth Trust provides investors with a stake in successful British companies such as:

AMSTRAD, AMERSHAM INTERNATIONAL, BASS, BLUE ARROW, GLAXO, GRAND METROPOLITAN, HANSON TRUST, MARKS & SPENCER, PARKER KNOLL, REITERS, ROWITREE, AND TARMAC

as well as:

Associated British Foods, Allied Colloids, Arrol, Bristow, BTR, Bullough, Condon, Deere, GKN, Hamamson Properties, ICI, KLP, Laing Properties, Marston, P&O, Plesurama, Quarta, Miss Stone, Seara, Sider, David S. Smith, Stock Ship, Southern Bus Group, Spirax, Sorex, Spring Ram, T&S, Underwoods, WCRS, Whitbread, World of Leather.

PORTFOLIO POINTERS

- To be accepted as "Pedigree" companies should have:
- Continued growth in earnings per share - ideally over 5 years or more
- Stable, established and proven management
- Ability to increase market share
- A sound business and financial base, on which future growth may be built.

Managers Limited, to the address shown. Units will be allocated at the Offer Price ruling on the day the application is received.

Please remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

You should look upon your investment as long term.

GENERAL INFORMATION
Unit Prices and Selling Units - The prices of units and the yields are published daily in *The Times* and *Financial Times*. If you wish to sell your units, simply complete the end of contract on the back of your Certificate and return it to the Managers. You will receive the full net value of your units ruling on the day your Certificate reaches us and a cheque will normally be forwarded within seven working days of receipt.

Charges - An initial charge of 5% is included in the Offer Price of the units, and an annual charge of 1% plus VAT of the value of the fund is deducted on a monthly basis from the Trust to meet the expenses of the Trustees and Managers.

The Trust Deed permits a maximum initial charge of 7% and a maximum annual charge of 2% plus VAT. Charges can only be increased after 1 month's written notice to unit holders.

Reimbursement may be paid to qualified intermediaries and rates are available on request.

Accumulation Units - All units are accumulation units and income is automatically reinvested and reflected in the Unit Price. On 1 July 1986 unit holders will receive a 15p increase in the unit price they are deemed to have received.

Contract Notes and Certificates - Contract Notes will be issued on receipt of full instructions. Unit Certificates will normally be issued within 15 working days of receipt of payment.

Managers - Clerical Medical Unit Trust Managers Limited, Narrow Plains, Bristol BS2 0PL. Registered Office - 15 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4JL. Registered No. 1816441. Director: Michael Burt, Unit Trust Managers Limited. (10) Jersey, London EC2B 2PR.

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Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.30pm

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FULL FORENAMES _____

ADDRESS _____

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SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

FAMILY MONEY/10

Great value on wheels

CARS

Most people buying a car are prepared to write off depreciation as one of the running costs. Like any machine, the older it is, the less efficient it becomes in performing the purpose for which it was originally designed.

With continued maintenance, however, one can prolong the life of a car indefinitely. Engine, transmission, body and chassis can all be replaced — the car being generally sold when the owner judges that further expenditure will not be recouped either in resale value or reliability.

Cars are not, then, usually retained by the same owner until they "die", and are sold on in preference to a more recent or new model.

A collectable car has a certain demand, albeit specialized, and so its resale price or value rises because there are too many people after too few cars. A market is created where the article is not only an old car, but a collectable item in its own right.

If one runs such a car, and the market demands are maintained, the value is not equated with an old depreciating machine, but with an appreciating classic. The resale value need only remain static to have made money over a "functional car", which gradually falls in price because of wear and tear.

As with all private sales, prices fluctuate widely. Many owners put a high price on what in some cases is regarded as part of the family.

However, most of the collectable cars have owners' clubs, producing monthly or quarterly magazines, organized to promote interest in



Derrick Mayberry, a Middlesex bank manager, with his Triumph Vitesse MkII convertible

their respective models rather than the price, and so are a good source of information about what one can reasonably expect to pay rather than what is advertised.

It is necessary, therefore, to determine what can reasonably be expected when paying for a car in a particular condition, taking into consideration the very important cost of carrying out any additional work that may prove necessary.

For the latter, the RAC will inspect a vehicle and provide a written report for £45 to non-members, £39 to members, and the AA to members only for £44.

The chassis and body are

expensive to replace. A good respray using a quality paint will cost at least £500, so it is essential that all extras are added to the purchase price before a decision is made to buy. Compared with today's cars they are technologically inferior, and essentials such as brakes need more attention, and are usually less efficient even when well maintained.

Safety features incorporated now, such as dual braking systems, will be absent on a car manufactured in the 1960s, and this must also be borne in mind.

Perhaps the most important factor is reliability. Anyone who depends heavily on a vehicle for work will be let

down more often in an old car than in a new one, and it is generally good advice to reserve the classic car for weekend use or as the second vehicle.

This practice also has distinct advantages when it comes to insurance. Many of the owners' clubs have special arrangements with insurance companies.

A Sunbeam Tiger 4.2 litre V8 can be insured quite cheaply provided that the annual mileage is less than 3,000 miles and the car is garaged. The Carmen Ghia and Triumph Herald convertible, which are both economical to run and have a good market demand, make ideal second cars. The Triumph Vitesse, prices of which have soared in recent years for the convertible, have the majority of parts available at Leyland stockists, and have ease of access to the engine for the do-it-yourself mechanic.

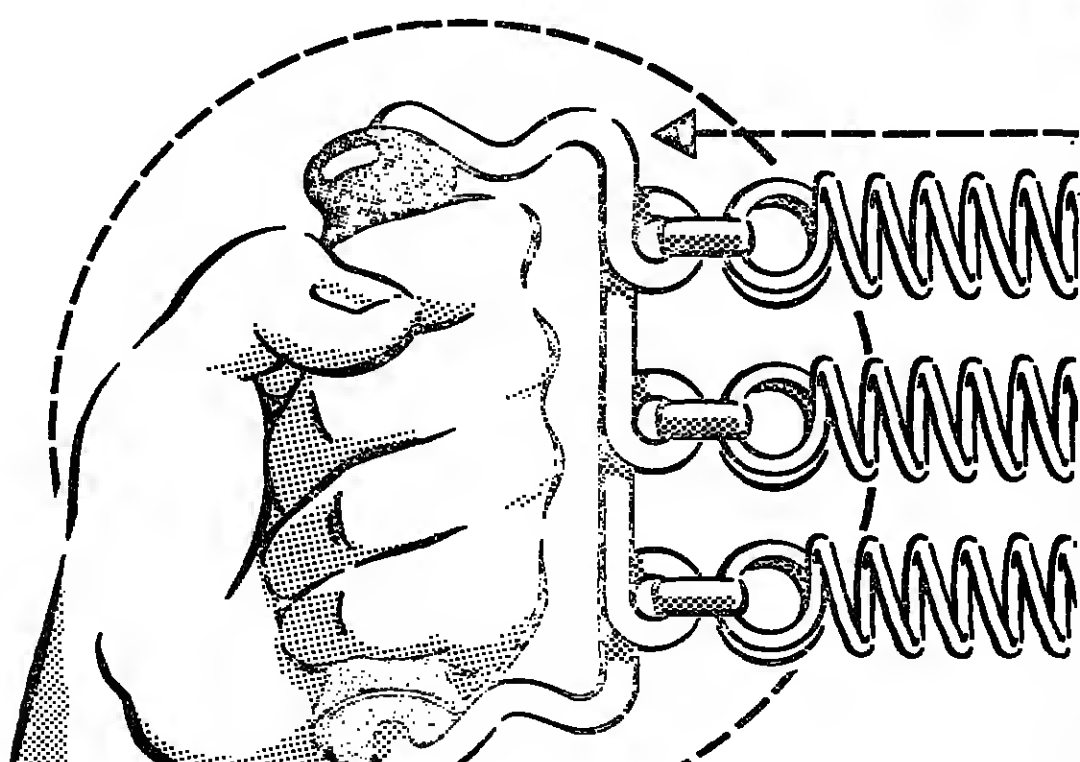
If you are undeterred by the many pitfalls, the classic car can save, or occasionally make, money — but be careful out there.

Anthony Capstick

| Model | Year | New | 1980 A | 1983 A | 1987 A | B | C |
|---------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|
| Mini Cooper S 1275 | 1964-71 | £756 | £1,850 | £1,950 | £3,000 | £1,250 | £500 |
| Sunbeam Alpine | 1959-68 | £1,032 | £1,350 | £1,400 | £2,500 | £1,250 | £250 |
| Sunbeam Tiger | 1964-67 | £1,464 | £2,200 | £2,750 | £4,200 | £2,500 | £600 |
| Triumph Herald convertible 1300 | 1966-71 | £383 | £1,250 | £1,500 | £2,350 | £1,250 | £350 |
| Triumph Herald 1300 sedan | 1967-70 | £728 | £575 | £750 | £925 | £475 | £75 |
| VW Karmann-Ghia | 1955-70 | £1,129 | £2,000 | £2,450 | £3,000 | £1,750 | £450 |

Condition A: Cars in first-class order, but not concours; very well maintained and free from any real faults.
Condition B: Category into which most classic cars fall; MOT-tested and capable of use.
Condition C: Cars in need of a full rebuild; unfinished restoration projects with pieces of parts, many of which would be missing.
Source: Classic Cars, December-July 1987

A better prospect for higher rate tax payers.



The New Charterhouse BES Fund

Charterhouse has a long-standing reputation for finding better-managed British companies and for helping them to maximise their growth potential. Already a leader in BES funds, Charterhouse now has £17.3m invested in 38 companies. Furthermore, all of our four existing Funds were fully invested within their respective tax years. We now introduce our fifth Charterhouse BES Fund, called CHEF V, which will again provide the private investor with an exceptional investment opportunity.

Greater Tax Efficiency

Full Income Tax relief can be claimed on the amount you invest in CHEF V and provided the full Income

| When you buy | When you sell |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Net Income Tax savings on £5,000 invested | NO CAPITAL GAINS TAX |
| Your Rate | on total net profit on first sale of an investment |
| 40% | £2,000 |
| 50% | £2,500 |
| 60% | £3,000 |

Tax relief is still available there is no Capital Gains Tax when you first sell shares subscribed by the Fund. Thus, a considerable saving can be achieved on this extremely cost-effective and potentially rewarding investment.

The Charterhouse Advantage

It is the quality of the investments chosen that makes the difference. For over 30 years Charterhouse has been investing successfully in unquoted companies. By seeking out those that have more mature management and greater growth potential, we can increase your opportunity for maximum returns.

Act Now!

CHEF V will be strictly limited to £5 million, and preference will be given to last year's Fund investors. So act now to secure your allocation, as final date for receipt of applications is 31 July 1987. The maximum investment is £40,000, the minimum only £2,000. Copies of the Memorandum and Application Form can be obtained at branches of The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, or by ringing 01-248 4000 during office hours, or 01-329 4607 (24 hours a day). Or, just return the coupon (no stamp required).

The Charterhouse Business Expansion Fund is a fund approved by the Inland Revenue under the terms of the Finance Act 1983. Investment in unquoted companies carries higher tax relief as well as the at a rate of higher rewards. This investment does not constitute an invitation to subscribe to the Fund. Applications to subscribe will be accepted only on the terms and conditions set out in the Memorandum describing the Fund. The full details of the Charterhouse Business Expansion Fund 1987/88 are Charterhouse Business Expansion Fund Management Limited, 7 Ludgate Broadway, London EC4A 3DU.



To: FREEPOST Charterhouse BES, 7 Ludgate Broadway, London EC4A 3DU. Please urgently send me a copy of the Charterhouse BES Fund 1987/88 Memorandum and Application Form.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Post Code: _____
Tel No: _____

THE CHARTERHOUSE BUSINESS EXPANSION FUND 1987/88

Law Report June 20 1987

Call for reforms to avoid delay

Westminster City Council v Clifford Culpin & Partners and Another
Before Lord Justice Kerr and Sir John Megaw
[Judgment June 18]

The Court of Appeal in dismissing the plaintiffs' appeal from the Official Referee's decision to strike out their action against the two defendants for want of prosecution, criticized the present system of litigation and called for substantive and procedural reforms to speed up the institution and prosecution of claims.

Mr John Hicks QC, Mr David Blunt and Mr David Sears for the plaintiffs; Mr Stephen Fursi for the first defendants and Mr Timothy Elliot for the second defendants.

LORD JUSTICE KERR said that the proceedings arose out of a development at Boldon Street, Lisson Grove, Westminster, for the construction of two five-storey blocks of flats and a six-storey office block. The plaintiffs, Westminster City Council, owned the site; the first defendants, Clifford Culpin & Partners, were the architects; and the second defendants, J. Jarvis & Sons plc, were the builders.

The plaintiffs' claims related to defects in the roof decking of the three blocks and were based on faulty design and inadequate supervision against the architects and bad workmanship against the builders.

The relevant events occurred between May 1972 and July 1974. The writ was issued by the plaintiffs on September 29, 1978 and was not served on both

defendants until the last day of its validity, September 28, 1979. The statement of claim was served on December 3, 1981.

In July 1982 the architects served a defence which denied liability. The builders served their defence and counterclaim in September 1982. They denied all the allegations against them and pleaded that they had carried out the architects' instructions properly throughout. On that basis they raised a substantial counterclaim. The plaintiffs had made no application to strike out the counterclaim.

The plaintiffs should not be allowed to proceed with their claim for no other reason than that the builders could not properly be prevented from proceeding with their counterclaim.

There was no reason why the plaintiffs' legal costs should be treated on an equal footing. The plaintiffs' claim was strikeable out on the principles of *Birkett v James* (1978) AC 297. Nothing analogous applied to the builders' counterclaim.

The plaintiffs should be allowed to amend their reply and defence to the counterclaim to raise any of their pleaded allegations by way of defence and set-off, but no more. Their claim against both defendants should be struck out.

Although more complex than most and unusual to the extent that the plaintiffs were represented by their own legal department for the relevant years, the present case was typical of the

large numbers of applications to strike out claims for want of prosecution which were constantly before the courts.

Those were only the tip of the iceberg. For every contested case there were no doubt dozens which were settled or not pursued. Their consequences were pernicious.

They were caused by inexcusable dilatoriness or inefficiency on the part of the lawyers and sometimes others, such as the insurers. That then led to extensive further delays and wasted costs involved in contesting the resulting striking out applications.

Apart from the delays between 1973 and early 1986 when the summonses to strike out were issued in the present case, one should reflect on the time and effort, and the thousands of pounds spent on lawyers' fees and other costs, which had been expended over the last 18 months without any relevance or benefit for the subject matter of the proceedings.

That period had been taken up with numerous complex fresh pleadings and applications to amend or to appeal and three court hearings, until, now, involving three firms of solicitors and four barristers on each occasion. The proceedings involved in killing a claim could take far longer and cost far more than its trial. Such proceedings were entirely sterile and unproductive in relation to the substantive issues.

There were constant complaints about delays in the country's legal processes and suggestions for reforms, such as

the current Civil Justice Review by the Lord Chancellor's Department. But no changes in the organization or administration of the courts would make any material difference to cases such as the present.

By far the major part of all delay stemmed solely from the way in which litigation was conducted. In that connection the law needed to be changed, both in substance and procedurally.

The principles laid down in *Birkett v James* were unsatisfactory and inadequate. They were far too lenient to deal effectively with excessive delays. Moreover they then bred excessive further delays and costs in their application.

The long line of decisions concerned with striking out applications, both reported and unreported, demonstrated that the regime of *Birkett v James* should be replaced by a system of rules which were much stricter, more effective and simple to apply.

It was highly questionable whether plaintiffs should be allowed the benefit of the full periods of limitation, with virtual impunity, where the facts were known and there was no obstacle to the speedy institution and prosecution of claims.

The present system provided insufficient sanctions for those responsible for the dilatory and inefficient conduct of litigation, and it was frequently unfair to litigants.

Sir John Megaw agreed. Solicitors: Herbert Smith, Ince & Co; Masons.

Sum releasing option a taxable gain

Powison (Inspector of Taxes) v Welbeck Securities Ltd
Before Lord Justice Slade, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Bingham
[Judgment June 12]

The receipt by a company of a capital sum of £2 million in consideration for agreeing to "release and abandon" an option gave rise to a capital gain on which corporation tax was chargeable. Such a transaction was not excluded from the charge arising from the provisions of sections 19 and 22 of the Finance Act 1965 by virtue of the provisions of paragraph 14(3) of Schedule 7 to that Act.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by the company, Welbeck Securities Ltd, from the decision of Mr Justice Hoffmann in *The Times* August 14, 1986; [1986] STC 423 that had reversed a determination of special commissioners to respect of a corporation tax assessment made on the company for its accounting period of 12 months to March 31, 1975.

Paragraph 14(3) of Schedule 7 to the Finance Act 1965 provides: "The abandonment of an option ... shall not constitute the disposal of an asset".

Mr Charles Beattie, QC and Mr G. R. A. Argles for the company; Mr Edward Nugee, QC and Mr Christopher McCall, QC, for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE SLADE said that in 1961 the company acquired an option to partici-

pate in a property development. Following the commencement of legal proceedings in 1974 the company accepted payment of £2 million under a consent order whereby it agreed to "release and abandon" the option.

In 1984 the commissioners, allowing an appeal by the company, held that it could rely on rights in paragraph 14(3) of Schedule 7 to exempt the gain on that receipt from giving rise to any charge to tax.

Mr Justice Hoffmann allowed the Crown's appeal from that decision. Following the decision of Mr Justice Vinelott in *Golding v Kaufman* (1985) 1 WLR 1285, [1985] STC 152, a case that was indistinguishable from the present one on its facts, he held that the receipt by the company as consideration for the surrender of the option gave rise to a capital gain.

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The company advanced two alternative principal grounds of support of its appeal, the second of which had not been put before Mr Justice Hoffmann.

First it submitted that paragraph 14(3) precluded any chargeable disposal from having occurred either in May 1974 or at any date. Second, it said that if such a disposal did occur that it was not in May 1974 but in January 1974, that being when the legal proceedings were commenced.

On its first point the company's case was unacceptable. The word "disposal" as used in section 19(1) of the Act was itself not apt to include the mere release of an option.

Sections 22(3) and 23(3) were enacted for the very purpose of bringing into charge, among other transactions, such a disposal in such manner as to extinguish them or the receipt of capital sums as consideration for such releases.

Further, Mr Beattie's submission, that even if section 22(3) gave rise to a disposal of the option in May 1974, nevertheless the company was exempted by paragraph 14(3), had to be rejected.

That submission raised two questions. Did the release of the option for value give rise to an "abandonment" within the meaning of paragraph 14(3)? If so, did paragraph 14(3) exclude the operation of section 22(3)?

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The judge was right in concluding that the paragraph did not cover enough ground to prevent the £2 million from giving rise to a disposal under section 22(3).

That being so, strictly it was unnecessary to decide whether the phrase "abandonment of an option" in paragraph 14(3) included the giving up of an option for value.

However, there did not

appear to be any sufficient reason to dissent from the views of either Mr Justice Hoffmann, or of Mr Justice Vinelott in the *Golding* case, that the wording of paragraph 14(3) was wide enough to include the giving up of an option for value. The exception was to cover all occasions of the extinction of an option otherwise than by its exercise whether or not a capital sum was received in respect of such extinction.

The company's second point on the appeal was also rejected. That was based on the wording concerning the time of a disposal contained in paragraph 10(1) of Schedule 10 to the Finance Act 1971.

However there were several reasons why that paragraph did not avail the company. The relevant disposal was one within section 22(3)(c) which, by virtue of section 45(5) of the 1965 Act occurred in May 1974.

LORD JUSTICE BINGHAM agreed with Lord Justice Slade in the conclusion that the word "abandonment" in paragraph 14(3) was broad enough to cover a consensual agreement to abandon for consideration.

The company had brought an action to assert its claim to the option and agreed to "release and abandon" that option on payment of £2 million. To regard that as an abandonment of the option was to mistake its form for its substance.

Lord Justice Ralph Gibson agreed with Lord Justice Slade.

Solicitors: Courts & Co; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Damages in rent claim are taxable profits

Donald Fisher (Ealing) Ltd v Spencer (Inspector of Taxes)
Before Mr Justice Walton
[Judgment June 11]

A sum received as damages by a company in settlement of legal proceedings concerning the amount of rent payable by it for premises used in connection with its trade, formed part of the profits of the company for corporation tax purposes.

Mr Justice Walton so held in dismissing an appeal by the company, Donald Fisher (Ealing) Ltd, from a determination by a single special commissioner, Mr Justice Goff, that the provisions of a corporation tax assessment made on it for the accounting period to April 5, 1982.

Mr Andrew Cosedige for the company; Mr Philip Vallance for the Revenue.

MR JUSTICE WALTON said that £14,000 was paid to the company by a negligent estate agent to compensate for the

damage suffered. That damage was that for the rest of the term of the lease of trading premises the company would have to pay the landlord an annual rental in an amount exceeding what the proper rent should have been.

Thus the effect of the agent's negligence was that the profit made by the company was less than it would have been by the amount of the excess rent year by year. It was both common sense and common law that the £14,000 as paid to put back that diminution in the company's profit.

The special commissioner, relying on *Gray v Lord Penrhyn* (1937) 3 All ER 101, and on *Rail v Nagel* (1981) 55 TC 585, concluded that the payment was a business receipt forming part of the company's trading profits. His determination was correct and the appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: Somers & Co, West Ealing; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Jail is not automatic for breach of order

Smith v Smith
Committal to prison was not an automatic result of a breach of an order of the court but depended on all of the circumstances.

The Court of Appeal (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, and Lord Justice Balcombe) on June 12 allowed an appeal against a sentence of 28 days' imprisonment, imposed by Mr Recorder Zucker, QC, at High Wycombe County Court on June 5 for contempt of court, by substituting an order enabling the defendant to be released from prison forthwith.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the defendant had been in breach of a non-molestation order obtained by the plaintiff with whom the defendant had been living and, as a result, the defendant had been required to give an undertaking not to go within a mile of the plaintiff's residence.

According to the plaintiff, there had been a number of

unlawful occurrences in breach of the undertaking and she sought an order for the defendant's committal to prison.

The defendant admitted that he had been in breach of the undertaking and had looked through her window. The other allegations made by the plaintiff had not been admitted.

The judge was in error in assuming that any breach of the undertaking automatically led to imprisonment. Orders of the court were to be maintained but committal to prison did not automatically follow a breach of the orders. Imprisonment was not appropriate if the breach was minor.

Further, the judge was not entitled to take account of any matters not admitted by the defendant or proved by the plaintiff.

On the basis of the defendant's admissions the 28 days' imprisonment was excessive.

European Law Report

Power of national court to make a reference

Criminal Proceedings against a Person or Persons Unknown
Case 14/86

Before Judge V. Galmot, President of the Fifth Chamber and the Commission of the European Communities considered that it was inadmissible.

In its judgment the European Court of Justice held as follows:

Pretori were judges who, in proceedings such as the present, combined the duties of public prosecutor and those of investigating judge.

The court had jurisdiction to answer the reference for a preliminary ruling since it had been made by a court which had acted in the general context of its duty to rule, independently and in accordance with the law, upon cases in which the law conferred jurisdiction upon it even if certain of the duties which that court had to discharge in the proceedings which gave rise to the reference were not of a strictly judicial nature.

As the court had held in its judgment of March 10, 1981 in *Frühtrier v Ireland* ([1981] ECR 735), in order that the interpretation of Community law should be of use to the national court, it was necessary to define the legal context in which the interpretation requested should be placed.

From that aspect, it might be advantageous in certain circumstances for the facts in the case to be settled at the time the reference was made to the European Court of Justice so as to enable the latter to take cognizance of all the features of fact and law which might be relevant to the interpretation of Community law which it was called upon to give.

However those considerations did not in any way restrict the discretion of the national court, which alone had a direct knowledge of the facts of the case and of the arguments of the parties, which had to take the responsibility for the judgment which would eventually be given in the case and which was therefore in the best position to assess at what stage in the procedure it required a preliminary ruling from the European Court.

The decision as to when to make a reference under article 177 in a particular case was thus dictated by considerations of procedural organization and efficiency which were not to be weighed by the European Court of Justice, but solely by the national court.

The binding nature of preliminary rulings upon national courts did not prevent the national court to whom such a

judgment was addressed from bringing the matter before the Court again, if it considered it necessary in order to give judgment in the national proceedings.

Such a reference might be justified when the national court encountered difficulties in understanding or applying the judgment, where it submitted a new question of law to the Court or when it submitted new material which might lead the Court to give a different answer to a question which had already been dealt with.

It followed that, in a case where defendants were identified after the reference for a preliminary ruling, and if none of those conditions were fulfilled, the national court could make a further reference to the Court of Justice, thereby ensuring the necessary respect for the rights of defence.

In answer to the questions submitted by the Pretore di Salò the European Court of Justice (Fifth Chamber) ruled:

Council Directive No 78/659 of July 18, 1978 could not have the effect, by itself and independently of the internal law of a member state adopted for its implementation, of determining or aggravating the criminal liability of those who acted contrary to its provisions.

Luxembourg

TENNIS

ATP waits for a decision on tests

By Richard Evans

Members of the Association of Tennis Professionals will be told whether they are to undergo compulsory drug-testing at Wimbledon when they gather at the Gloucester Hotel for their annual general meeting this morning.

Unlike several other highly sensitive issues that will be raised, the men players will have no say on the drugs issue because, at their own instigation, a programme that allows the Mens International Professional Tennis Council to test at two or more of the world's top five tournaments each year has already been agreed.

However, it was thought that Miss this year because of the highly indignant reaction of the Lawn Tennis Association to last year's testing. Now two factors have made that conclusion less certain. First, Colin Moynihan, the new Minister for Sport, has come out strongly in favour of drug tests for athletes, and second, Dr Joseph Persh, the New York doctor who carried out the tests at Wimbledon last year, was spotted in the lobby of the Gloucester.

Few of the players will view his presence with alarm because even the softest of social drugs seems to be out of fashion on the tour. However, the political issues that will be discussed by the players concern more than a short of protest from the MPTC.

As negotiations over the players' pension fund continue in less-than-harmonious fashion, the players will be asked if they want to remain part of the game's governing body that is made up of three ITF, three ATP and three tournament director representatives.

A breakaway by the ATP would not necessarily be catastrophic but it would lead to a major restructuring of the way in which tennis is run.

In the meantime, the two sides are reported to be "miles apart" on guidelines for the £2.5 million-a-year (£1.54 million) donation from the grand prize tournaments toward the players' pension fund.

The players' negotiating hand promises to be strengthened next week if one of the ATP council members, possibly by Harold Solomon, agrees to step down so that the new executive director, Hamilton Jordan, can take his place. As Jordan sat eyeball-to-eyeball with Iranian revolutionaries during his time as Jimmy Carter's White House chief of staff, negotiating a players' pension fund should not prove especially daunting.

A birthday let-down for Bates

By Richard Eaton

Jeremy Bates's 25th birthday yesterday was very far from ideal. The batsman, who played a quarter-final in the Bristol Trophy and Miss Bristol presented a cake to him. This time he was scheduled for his first match, which meant he had to entertain himself for a full seven hours before being told that he would not play because the courts were too wet.

Britain's leading player on current form tries again today to get a match against the seeded South African, Eddy Edwards, which if he wins will give him a quarter-final in the third year running. To keep his spirits up Bates practised on hard court, played an inventive game of cricket outside the club house and gave a surprisingly buoyant press conference.

He still believes this could be the year when he breaks his Wimbledon jinx of four first round defeats, because his form in the last three weeks since assisted by the Australian, Warren Jacques, has been so good.

"I know there will be some restructuring of positions but I think I am the kind of person who is required to succeed Paul Hutchings when he leaves," Bates said.

POLO

Muddy battle for Cup at Smith's Lawn

By John Watson

After weeks of rain, the grounds at Smith's Lawn have never looked more like a battle field than they did yesterday after only two or three chunks of the Royal Windsor Cup semi-finals.

In the windy, sluggish, all-terrain conditions Sladmore, who are put together by the Hursley brothers, defeated Gatton Western's Maple Leafs by seven goals to six.

Both teams aggregated the top 15-goal handicap and it was a level-playing battle between the only man who excelled his handicap and that was the Maple Leafs' number one, Rupert Gordon, who was standing in for the injured John Yeoman.

For Sladmore, David Wood and the New Zealander, Patrick McIlwaine who has produced some nice ponies for the Hursleys made a strong forward tandem, to lever on the pivot role of John Hursley.

The Maple Leafs, backing up with a superb display of mutual support, made a frenzied attempt to equalise in the last seconds of the fifth and last chukka and were unlucky not to do so.

SLADMORE: 1, O Wood (3), 2, P McIlwaine (3), 3, J Gordon (1), 4, R Gordon (1), 5, J Gordon (1), 6, J Gordon (1), 7, J Gordon (1), 8, J Gordon (1), 9, J Gordon (1), 10, J Gordon (1), 11, J Gordon (1), 12, J Gordon (1), 13, J Gordon (1), 14, J Gordon (1), 15, J Gordon (1).

Navratilova rounds on her equipment sponsors to combat the emerging threat from Graf



A racket racket: Left, Martina Navratilova last year using the square-headed Yonex R-22 racket. Centre, Miss Navratilova, in Paris this month, using the Dunlop Max 200G racket, although the strings bear the Yonex logo. Right: Steffi Graf, also in Paris, with the Dunlop racket (and Dunlop logo) with which she won the title at Miss Navratilova's expense.

By Barry Wood

Martina Navratilova has switched to a racket exactly the same as that used by her rival, Steffi Graf, in an attempt to halt her unprecedented spell of nearly seven months without a tournament victory and retain her Wimbledon championship.

Miss Navratilova has a contract with the Japanese company, Yonex, to use its rackets, reported to be worth at least £250,000 a year to her. But last month she made the sudden decision to change her racket, allowing herself just a few days to practise and adjust before the French Open, and putting at risk the contract.

Her new racket, which she has been using at Eastbourne this week, is the British-made Dunlop Max 200G, although the strings bear

the Yonex logo. "On the first day of the French championships, we were asked by her agents if we could supply four Max 200G rackets for Martina," a Dunlop spokesman said. "We were surprised but happy to do so. We asked why she wanted them and were told that she had been a little uncertain of her form in Rome a couple of weeks before [where she was defeated for the first time by Gabriela Sabatini], and she had in the course of practice picked up one of Carling Bassett's 200G rackets — the same, by coincidence or not, that Steffi Graf uses."

"She apparently felt that she wanted to use it on the French Open, an unusual decision so close to a major event." In the Paris final, Miss Graf beat Miss Navratilova in three sets.

The Dunlop racket, which has won a Queen's Award for Industry and is used by a unique process. It is injection-moulded and made from very short graphite fibres in a matrix of nylon and is extremely flexible. The effect of the shorter fibres reduces vibration and although the racket is not as strong as some other models, it is more than adequate for normal use.

Now Yonex, alarmed at the defection of its leading flag-bearer, has responded by announcing that it intends to develop a similar racket for Miss Navratilova. Dunlop believes that is impossible.

"There is nothing close to it in the world and it is patented and cannot be copied, so we were

a little surprised to read that her present manufacturers are intending to produce a racket like it," Dunlop said.

Miss Navratilova has made startling changes before in her quest for success. Just before Wimbledon four years ago, and after suffering what was to be her only defeat of the year (at the hands of Kathy Horvath in the fourth round of the French Open), she sacked her coach, Renee Richards. On the eve of this year's Australian Open, she parted company with Mike Estep, the coach with whom she had enjoyed unparalleled success and invited Virginia Wade to join her entourage. That arrangement was ended just before the French Open, when Miss Navratilova re-engaged Miss Richards at the French championships.

GOLF: ACCURATE IRISHMAN DEFIES THE ELEMENTS

Darcy collects six birdies to challenge Woosnam

Eamonn Darcy fired six birdies in nine holes to take the third round lead in the £150,000 Volvo Belgian Open golf championship at Royal Waterloo yesterday.

The 34-year-old Irishman, seeking his first win since 1983, set out four shots behind Ian Woosnam but defied persistent rain and flooded greens to go out in a five below par 31.

He swooped 11 under par

and one ahead of Woosnam, who went to the turn in 36. The Welshman was being chased by another Irishman, Ronan Rafferty, Nick Faldo, Gavin Levenson, of South Africa, the winner in 1979, and Berkshire's Barry Lane, who were all eight under par.

Play had resumed after a delay of two and three quarter hours. Soggy fairways and flooded greens had the ground staff frantically trying to clear

the water as Woosnam dropped his first shot of the championship with a five at the third hole.

He fell back to nine under par, with Faldo and Darcy each getting an early birdie to improve to seven under alongside Fowler, who birdied the first two holes.

Sweden's Ove Selberg proved the elements could be beaten with a six below 65 to post a six under par target of 67, but conditions were becoming progressively worse for the later starters.

EARLY LEADING THIRD ROUND SCORES: 21st, R. Rafferty, E. Darcy, (Spain) 67; 20th, G. Faldo, P. Curry, (Spain) 68; 19th, G. Levenson, (Spain) 69; 18th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 70; 17th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 71; 16th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 72; 15th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 73; 14th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 74; 13th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 75; 12th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 76; 11th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 77; 10th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 78; 9th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 79; 8th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 80; 7th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 81; 6th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 82; 5th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 83; 4th, R. Darcy, (Spain) 84; 3rd, R. Darcy, (Spain) 85; 2nd, R. Darcy, (Spain) 86; 1st, R. Darcy, (Spain) 87.

Johannesburg (Reuter) — South African golf officials said yesterday they hoped to entice leading foreign players to this year's Sunshine Circuit by offering a prize fund of £1.5 million, a record 2.5 million rand (\$1,050,000).

The executive director of the South African Professional Golfers' Association, Jimmy Hemphill, said each of the 14 events, which run from November to March 1988, would carry a minimum of 150,000 rand (\$75,000) in prize money.

This news was received with some concern by the older players, among them John Fanton, aged 70, twice winner of the event and a former world seniors champion, and Ken Bousfield, aged 67, a former Ryder Cup player, both aged 52, made representations to the PGA officials on their behalf.

Both felt they could not tackle two rounds in one day and two of the younger players, the tournament leader, Ben Cokes, and Rose Whitehead, both aged 52, made representations to the PGA officials on their behalf.

After consultation with the sponsors it was agreed that the tournament should be reduced to 54 holes, with one round being played today and the final

Britons happy but damp

From John Hennessy The Hague

Penny Grice-Whitaker, a former English stroke-player champion produced a brilliant round of golf in persistent rain to secure a four-shot lead on the second day of the Volvo Open at The Hague Country Club yesterday. She scored 66, six under par, for a total of 134, 10 under par.

Dale Reid, a little Scot with a big golf game, took one stroke more for 138 and Alison Nicholas, an Englishwoman cast in the same diminutive mould, brought in the same score for a total of 139.

Mrs Grice-Whitaker and Miss Reid formed a magnetic three-ball with Laura Davies, towering over the two of them, and there was a time when every hole seemed to produce some fireworks. After Mrs Grice-Whitaker had set the pace by bolting a 45-yard pitch shot for no eagle three at the first.

Miss Davies, however, could not keep her game under strict control, so that it was the Scot who took up an absorbing challenge after Mrs Grice-Whitaker had gone to the turn in 31, five under par. Miss Reid, out to 34, came home in 33. Neither she nor the leader once dropped a shot to par.

If that pitch in at the first was the most profitable shot of Mrs Grice-Whitaker's round, it was a fit-to-see into the elevated ninth green with only half the flagstick visible, which gave her the greatest pleasure. From 147 yards out, she hit the ball to just two feet.

She then reeled off par after par, perfectly satisfied, she said later, to get through a difficult passage without surrendering a stroke. A six into 15 feet at the 15th was her final thrust.

Miss Reid drove beautifully, hit her iron shots accurately, and scrambled superbly when necessary, she had to.

LEADING SECOND ROUND SCORES: 1st, P. Grice-Whitaker 66; 2nd, D. Reid 67; 3rd, A. Nicholas 68; 4th, L. Davies 69; 5th, G. Levenson 70; 6th, R. Darcy 71; 7th, R. Darcy 72; 8th, R. Darcy 73; 9th, R. Darcy 74; 10th, R. Darcy 75; 11th, R. Darcy 76; 12th, R. Darcy 77; 13th, R. Darcy 78; 14th, R. Darcy 79; 15th, R. Darcy 80; 16th, R. Darcy 81; 17th, R. Darcy 82; 18th, R. Darcy 83; 19th, R. Darcy 84; 20th, R. Darcy 85; 21st, R. Darcy 86; 22nd, R. Darcy 87; 23rd, R. Darcy 88; 24th, R. Darcy 89; 25th, R. Darcy 90; 26th, R. Darcy 91; 27th, R. Darcy 92; 28th, R. Darcy 93; 29th, R. Darcy 94; 30th, R. Darcy 95; 31st, R. Darcy 96; 32nd, R. Darcy 97; 33rd, R. Darcy 98; 34th, R. Darcy 99; 35th, R. Darcy 100; 36th, R. Darcy 101; 37th, R. Darcy 102; 38th, R. Darcy 103; 39th, R. Darcy 104; 40th, R. Darcy 105; 41st, R. Darcy 106; 42nd, R. Darcy 107; 43rd, R. Darcy 108; 44th, R. Darcy 109; 45th, R. Darcy 110; 46th, R. Darcy 111; 47th, R. Darcy 112; 48th, R. Darcy 113; 49th, R. Darcy 114; 50th, R. Darcy 115; 51st, R. Darcy 116; 52nd, R. Darcy 117; 53rd, R. Darcy 118; 54th, R. Darcy 119; 55th, R. Darcy 120; 56th, R. Darcy 121; 57th, R. Darcy 122; 58th, R. Darcy 123; 59th, R. Darcy 124; 60th, R. Darcy 125; 61st, R. Darcy 126; 62nd, R. Darcy 127; 63rd, R. Darcy 128; 64th, R. Darcy 129; 65th, R. Darcy 130; 66th, R. Darcy 131; 67th, R. Darcy 132; 68th, R. Darcy 133; 69th, R. Darcy 134; 70th, R. Darcy 135; 71st, R. Darcy 136; 72nd, R. Darcy 137; 73rd, R. Darcy 138; 74th, R. Darcy 139; 75th, R. Darcy 140; 76th, R. Darcy 141; 77th, R. Darcy 142; 78th, R. Darcy 143; 79th, R. Darcy 144; 80th, R. Darcy 145; 81st, R. Darcy 146; 82nd, R. Darcy 147; 83rd, R. Darcy 148; 84th, R. Darcy 149; 85th, R. Darcy 150; 86th, R. Darcy 151; 87th, R. Darcy 152; 88th, R. Darcy 153; 89th, R. Darcy 154; 90th, R. Darcy 155; 91st, R. Darcy 156; 92nd, R. Darcy 157; 93rd, R. Darcy 158; 94th, R. Darcy 159; 95th, R. Darcy 160; 96th, R. Darcy 161; 97th, R. Darcy 162; 98th, R. Darcy 163; 99th, R. Darcy 164; 100th, R. Darcy 165; 101st, R. Darcy 166; 102nd, R. Darcy 167; 103rd, R. Darcy 168; 104th, R. Darcy 169; 105th, R. Darcy 170; 106th, R. Darcy 171; 107th, R. Darcy 172; 108th, R. Darcy 173; 109th, R. Darcy 174; 110th, R. Darcy 175; 111th, R. Darcy 176; 112th, R. Darcy 177; 113th, R. Darcy 178; 114th, R. Darcy 179; 115th, R. Darcy 180; 116th, R. Darcy 181; 117th, R. Darcy 182; 118th, R. Darcy 183; 119th, R. Darcy 184; 120th, R. Darcy 185; 121st, R. Darcy 186; 122nd, R. Darcy 187; 123rd, R. Darcy 188; 124th, R. Darcy 189; 125th, R. Darcy 190; 126th, R. Darcy 191; 127th, R. Darcy 192; 128th, R. Darcy 193; 129th, R. Darcy 194; 130th, R. Darcy 195; 131st, R. Darcy 196; 132nd, R. Darcy 197; 133rd, R. Darcy 198; 134th, R. Darcy 199; 135th, R. Darcy 200; 136th, R. Darcy 201; 137th, R. Darcy 202; 138th, R. Darcy 203; 139th, R. Darcy 204; 140th, R. Darcy 205; 141st, R. Darcy 206; 142nd, R. Darcy 207; 143rd, R. Darcy 208; 144th, R. Darcy 209; 145th, R. Darcy 210; 146th, R. 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Board to stand by its man

By Alan Lee

David Constant is umpiring the Test match at Lord's in the full, disturbing awareness that one of the teams does not want him there and has no confidence in his ability.

Pakistan's abortive attempt to have him removed from the game can hardly fail to prey on Constant's mind. It is not the first time his competence has been questioned in this way by visiting teams but it is another unwelcome strain in a job of increasingly suffocating pressure. Last night it was plainly beginning to tell.

Umpires are contractually prohibited from public pronouncements during Tests, but Constant did say: "I am struck speechless by the complaint."

The cynical reaction is that the fee of £1,340 per match should be ample compensation for any emotional distress but probably of greater comfort to Constant is the support he has received from his employers, the Test and County Cricket Board, who considered and then rejected the Pakistani protest.

Although chief executive Alan Smith yesterday confirmed *The Times* account of the Pakistani protest, Board officials are eager to play down the issue. They believe that the objection to Constant and his colleague, Ken Palmer, was premature and provocative.

Pakistan's view is naturally different. In a letter to the Board they pointed to their dissatisfaction with Constant on their previous tour here, in 1982, when Imran Khan, the captain, publicly condemned certain controversial decisions and called for neutral umpires. They also cite the precedent of Constant being taken off a Test in the same summer, following a protest by India.

Yesterday, Hasib Ahsan, the tour manager, who made the request, displayed his anger. He reported that his players had been further annoyed by a decision of Constant's on Thursday, explaining: "They are very upset that Constant did not give Mike Gatting out lbw. They felt the ball would have hit middle stump."

The TCCB had to make a delicate decision. If they had acceded to the tourists' request, they risked a residue of resentment among English umpires — supposedly the finest in the world — that such a respected senior official, who has umpired Tests for 16 years, could be so summarily removed. By throwing out the protest, they were gambling on the Pakistanis accepting the verdict without adding to the pressure on Constant.

The course they chose was confirmation that they wish to protect the reputation and self-confidence of the umpires at a time when they are under fiercer scrutiny than ever before.

Following the wash-out of yesterday's play in the Cornhill Test, a claim totalling more than £150,000 will be lodged with a Birmingham insurance company. For the first time since they initiated the system three years ago, the TCCB's reinsurance policy has come into force, entitling every ticket-holding spectator to a complete refund on the purchase price.

TCCB's plans, page 45

IOC standing by strife-hit Seoul as Games venue

By John Goodbody

The International Olympic Committee was yesterday observing events in Seoul with concern but with confidence that the 1988 Summer Games will still be staged in South Korea, which is on the brink of anarchy after 10 days of violent anti-Government demonstrations.

The IOC announced from its headquarters in Lausanne that it had no thought of changing plans to hold the Games in Seoul since the only provision in its charter for altering venues is an act of war.

But in Los Angeles, which staged the 1984 Olympics, Mayor Tom Bradley declared: "The IOC has been told we could host the Games on short notice." He added that it was not a matter of actively seeking to stage the Olympics but rather of letting the IOC know that Los Angeles has the capability of staging the quadrennial event if necessary.

A contract exists between the IOC and the Seoul organizing committee over holding the 1988 Games and it is extremely unlikely, as well as legally inadvisable, that the IOC would break it.

It is more likely, if the

present crisis continued until the Games open on September 17 next year, that Seoul would advise the IOC that it cannot guarantee the safety of the competitors and ask to be released from the agreement because of conditions outside its control.

But as Anita De Frantz, an IOC member from the United States, said: "It is 15 months before the Games, which is a long, long time in the life of world events. I know the people of Korea want very much to hold the Games... they are very well prepared."

De Frantz said the situation facing the South Korean Government "is a very difficult one. It is an internal matter with the people of Korea, which they will have to resolve. But I am very confident that 15 months from now the Games will go on there."

Jim Worrall, a former IOC vice-president, said: "The IOC and the Olympic Games have been in difficult situations before. I certainly would counsel patience."

In London, Charles Palmer, the chairman of the British Olympic Association, said: "The BOA is unchanged in its attitude. We supported the

awarding of the Games to Seoul in 1981 and the reasons we did so are still valid now. We are still confident that the proper conditions exist to allow next year's Games to take place."

In 1968 there were student demonstrations in Mexico City before the Games, climaxing in one rally where probably 300 people were killed.

Although the Games are 15 months away, radical students and opposition politicians have raised the prospect of prolonged civil war unless President Chun allows free, direct elections to choose his successor.

In Moscow, Gennadiy Gerasimov, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, told a news conference: "There is a time limit to participation and that is not over. Soviet sportsmen will make their own decision."

North Korea has disputed its neighbour's right to stage the Games exclusively. It has already secured the right to hold two Olympic sports and some events in two others but wants still more. If its wishes are not satisfied it has threatened to lead another communist boycott similar to the one in 1984.

Nicklaus at the centre of the excitement

From Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent, San Francisco

As the second round of the 87th US Open unfolded at The Olympic Club here yesterday so Jack Nicklaus attempted to prolong his phenomenal career by remaining in the heat of the battle.

Ben Crenshaw had on Thursday taken the lead with a three-under-par first round of 67. Severiano Ballesteros, Ray Floyd, the defending champion, and Tommy Nakajima, of Japan, finished on 68 and Bernhard Langer was among a group on 69.

Sandy Lyle enriched the European challenge by matching the Lake Course par of 70, but of the 10 players to finish with that score it was Nicklaus who unquestionably evoked the most excitement. He had admitted only 24 hours before the start of the championship that unless something dramatic happened to his game he was looking at a "horrible week".

Nicklaus, assisted by Greg Norman, worked hard on his game on Tuesday afternoon. By Wednesday he felt that he was ironing out the faults in his swing which in an earlier practice round contributed to him topping two three-wood shots. "That was more than a little embarrassing," said Nicklaus.

Yet the difference in Nicklaus's game stemmed from his ability to overcome the fast and firm greens. He discarded the Response 2-T putter, with which he won the Masters 14 months ago, in favour of an old, smaller, white putter. "I had put it on a rack with my fishing rods almost two years ago but I had not forgotten it was there," said Nicklaus.

"The big putter which I used at Augusta is excellent.

But it seems I had become a little sloppy with it because you can hit the ball all over the face and still get a good roll. With the small face of my old putter I have to be more precise."

Four putts of between 12 and 20 feet enabled Nicklaus to extract birdies from a course which Crenshaw, after setting the pace, described as "a hold on for dear life kind of course." Crenshaw certainly achieved exactly that for he



Nicklaus: helped by Norman compiled his score in spite of dropping two shots at the 14th.

The fog that never lifted held down the wind so easing the task for the players but even in the relatively calm conditions only seven managed to break par. Ballesteros put together his 68 with the assistance of three birdies in four holes from the 10th. It included chipping in from just off the green for a two at the 13th.

"I think if I had three more 68s then I would easily win the championship," said Ballesteros. "If you offered me three 70s right now then I would take them and go and sit in the club house."

It was a significant statement from the Spaniard who is clearly a believer in par being a blessing this week. Langer, among the late starters on Thursday, was out when the greens, heavily watered before the start of play, were drying out. He was particularly unhappy with the 13th green which he described as hard as asphalt. "Your spikes barely penetrated the surface," he said.

But Langer, like Lyle earlier in the day, kept his composure. The West German laid the foundation to challenge for the second major championship win of his career following his success in the Masters in 1985.

Lyle, too, is seeking a second major championship. He wants to emulate Tony Jacklin by winning the US Open as well as the Open Championship. His chance appeared to be slipping away when he began his first round by taking a six at the first and another at the sixth. But he played the inward half in 32, three under par, by leaving his driver in the bag and employing his one-iron.

FIRST-ROUND SCORES (US unless stated): 67: A Crenshaw, 68: S Ballesteros, 69: J Nicklaus, 70: S Lyle, 71: B Langer, 72: T Nakajima, 73: R Floyd, 74: S Lyle, 75: B Langer, 76: S Lyle, 77: B Langer, 78: S Lyle, 79: B Langer, 80: S Lyle, 81: B Langer, 82: S Lyle, 83: B Langer, 84: S Lyle, 85: B Langer, 86: S Lyle, 87: B Langer, 88: S Lyle, 89: B Langer, 90: S Lyle, 91: B Langer, 92: S Lyle, 93: B Langer, 94: S Lyle, 95: B Langer, 96: S Lyle, 97: B Langer, 98: S Lyle, 99: B Langer, 100: S Lyle, 101: B Langer, 102: S Lyle, 103: B Langer, 104: S Lyle, 105: B Langer, 106: S Lyle, 107: B Langer, 108: S Lyle, 109: B Langer, 110: S Lyle, 111: B Langer, 112: S Lyle, 113: B Langer, 114: S Lyle, 115: B Langer, 116: S Lyle, 117: B Langer, 118: S Lyle, 119: B Langer, 120: S Lyle, 121: B Langer, 122: S Lyle, 123: B Langer, 124: S Lyle, 125: B Langer, 126: S Lyle, 127: B Langer, 128: S Lyle, 129: B Langer, 130: S Lyle, 131: B Langer, 132: S Lyle, 133: B Langer, 134: S Lyle, 135: B Langer, 136: S Lyle, 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